

the terms of reference so as to exclude "other consideration" from the terms ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERNAL SECURITY (SHRI ARUN NEHRU) : There is no such proposal at present.

Proposal to hand over Rajasthan-Pakistan border area to Army

2410. SHRI SRIHARI RAO : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to State :

(a) whether the Rajasthan-Pakistan border areas is too large to be effectively manned by the Border Security Force;

(b) whether in view of large scale infiltration of terrorists, Government are thinking of handing over this area to Army;

(c) if so, the steps taken in this regard to achieve optimum efficiency to check the designs of terrorists; and

(d) whether Government have identified other areas along the border which are vulnerable and if so, Government's plans to seal such areas, as well ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERNAL SECURITY (SHRI ARUN NEHRU) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Government have no reports of large scale infiltration of terrorists and there is no proposal at present to hand over the Rajasthan border area to the Army.

(c) Constant vigilance is maintained by the BSF on the border. Joint ambushes, raids and petrols with the local Police and other preventive agencies are organized by the BSF. Additional coys of BSF have been deployed on Rajasthan border. Observation towers have been erected to watch movements of infiltrators. Border Wing Home Guards have been deployed to augment the strength of border out posts.

(d) Necessary measures have been taken by Government for adequate security of the border. Anti-infiltration measures, strengthening of BSF battalions and other security measures for safeguarding the borders are reviewed by the Government from time to time.

Testing of anti-satellite weapon in space

2411. PROF. RAMKRISHNA MORE : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of USA's testing of an anti-satellite weapon (Asat) in space recently;

(b) whether Government consider that this experiment by USA is likely to escalate arms race in space; and

(c) if so, reaction thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI B.R. BHAGAT) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Government of India is opposed to the introduction of any weapon system in space and to the extension of the arms race into Outer Space. This position of the Government of India has been put forward forcefully at various multilateral forums, such as the Conference on Disarmament at Geneva and the UN General Assembly, as well as in bilateral discussions.

News item captioned "Heroin trail exposes police connection"

2412. SHRI YASHWANTRAO GADAKH PATIL :
SHRI BAJU BAN RIYAN :
SHRIMATI BIBHA GHOSH
GOSWAMI :
PROF. RAMKISHNA MORE :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to a news-item in the