

Chandigarh Administration and seizure of sizeable quantities of gold and cash etc. from the premises of one of these officials, Chandigarh Administration placed the official under suspension and registered a criminal case against him and other accused persons on 3rd February, 1998. The investigation of this case is in progress. In the meantime, the Chandigarh Administration have streamlined the procedures for award of works and purchase of material to ensure that such irregularities are not allowed to recur.

### Bomb Explosions

5944. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE :  
SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT :  
SHRI D.S. AHIRE :  
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :  
SHRI A.C. JOS :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether several bomb explosions are taking place in the country on a large scale for the last four months;

(b) if so, whether on June 23, 1998, eight passengers of the Delhi bound Shallmar Express were seriously injured in a powerful bomb blast which exploded on the railway tracks near Bari Brahmna, 18 kilometers away from Jammu;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the number of passengers killed/injured alongwith the number of persons arrested who found involved in said incidents;

(e) if so, whether in all the cases the ISI has been found responsible;

(f) if so, the details thereof;

(g) whether these gangs are operating in Delhi, Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan;

(h) if so, whether the Government are considering to convene a meeting of the Northern and Southern States where the activities of the ISI have increased; and

(i) if so, the details thereof alongwith the steps taken by the Union Government to check the extremist activities in the country?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) There have been several cases of bomb explosions during the last four months, in States such as Jammu & Kashmir, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and parts of the North East.

(b) to (d) As per available information, there was a bomb explosion on the railway track between Bari Brahamana and Vijaypur, District Jammu on June 23, 1998 causing derailment of the Delhi bound Shalimar Express, as a result of which 32 persons were injured. The militant group responsible for the explosion has not yet been identified.

(e) to (g) Government is aware that Pak ISI is involved in sinister designs to destabilise India by sponsoring terrorism and subversive activities in different parts of the country. Whether in these recent incidents ISI has been involved or not can be said only after all investigations have been completed.

(h) and (i) Review of internal security situation in the country with the State Governments is a continuous process and appropriate measures for strengthening and streamlining the arrangements are taken in consultation with the concerned State Governments, wherever found necessary. Government have taken several steps which include border fencing, intensification of border patrolling, supply of equipments for effective observations during day and night, increase in number of Nakas as well as sensitising and alerting the State Government regarding movement of Pak ISI agents and other anti-national elements. In the meanwhile, meetings with Southern and Western State Governments were convened on 12.3.98 and 23.3.1998 respectively to discuss these issues. Another such meetings with Northern States will be held on 18.8.1998.

### Dual Citizenship to Non-resident Indians

5945. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO :  
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Finance Minister has committed to give dual citizenship to Non-Resident Indians;

(b) if so, whether the Government hope to involve them more in the economic development of the country and the PIO card scheme by providing dual citizenship to the NRIs;

(c) if so, the time by which the scheme is likely to be implemented;

(d) whether the NRIs have agreed to invest more in India after this decision; and

(e) if so, the projects on which the NRIs have agreed to invest in India?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) to (e) No, Sir. The Finance Minister's

budget speech on 1st June, 1998 only mentioned the Government's decision to draw up a scheme for issuance of a Persons of Indian Origin (PIO) Card to person of Indian Origin living abroad and having foreign passports. The PIO card, which would be extended to persons of Indian Origin, settled in countries to be specified by the government, would provide some special economic, educational, financial, cultural and other benefits. The details of the scheme are being worked out.

#### Fake Currency

5946. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA :

SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the persons circulating fake currency are also involved in arms smuggling;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the extent to which the fake currency affected the economy of the country?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) No such instance has come to notice.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) According to available information, the value of the fake currency detected by the Reserve Bank of India and seized by the Police during the years 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96 was Rs. 15.00 lakhs approximately. This is believed to be only a fraction of the value of total currency notes in circulation. However, the value of fake currency notes actually in circulation cannot be precisely ascertained.

[Translation]

#### Sugar Mills in Uttar Pradesh

5947. SHRI INDRAJEET MISHRA : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the share of Union Government, State Government and other financial institutions in Khalilabad sugar mill of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) the outstanding amount to be paid to the sugar cane growers;

(c) whether the salary and other arrears have not been paid to the employees of the said mill;

(d) if so, the time by which it has not been paid and the reasons therefor;

(e) whether regular payment has never been made to the retired and the existing employees;

(f) whether the Government are aware that mill owners have issued notice for closing the mill; and

(g) if so, the action being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV) : (a) to (g) The information is being collected.

[English]

#### Naphtha based Power Project

5948. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are able to meet the entire requirement of the Naphtha for the power Stations in Rajasthan and other States;

(b) if not, whether there is any proposal to allow the import of Naphtha for power projects and to provide relief in custom duties on imported Naphtha; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) Under the Liquid Fuel Policy for power plants, the Government have allocated naphtha and F.O./LSHS for power generation within 12,000 MW of power generation capacity based liquid fuels including naphtha to the States including Rajasthan. Allocation of liquid fuels for power plants are made on the basis of the recommendations of the Ministry of Power within the capacity allocated to the particular State.

(b) and (c) Naphtha imports for power generation by Independent Power Producers (IPPs) who have been given allocation by Government, are allowed against actual user licence. At present, the custom duty on naphtha imports is 'nil'.

#### NHRC's Recommendations on U.N. Convention

5949. SHRI VIJAY SINGH SOY : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Human Rights Commission has wrongly recommended to accede to the 1984 U.N. convention against torture and other forms of cruel, inhuman and degrading;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and