

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. A.K. PATEL): (a) to (c) There is no news item captioned 'DPCO list should be cut to only 15 drugs' appearing in the Times of India dated 20th Sept. 1998 (Delhi Edition). There is no such proposal under consideration of the Government.

Police/Judicial Custody

3690. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA:
SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons kept in police or judicial custody for over three months and acquitted during each of the last three years so far;

(b) the number of women and children out of them; and

(c) the steps taken to eliminate such violation of fundamental rights at the hands of law enforcers and to revamp the Central Law enforcing agencies to prevent unsubstantiated prosecutions?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) and (b) Functioning of police and administration of justice in district/subordinate courts fall under the purview of the State Governments and High Courts respectively. Information in regard to persons kept in police or judicial custody over three months and their acquittal, etc. is not maintained at the Central level.

(c) Apart from the provisions contained in the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973, which provides for the period of detention of a person, many judicial pronouncements have also laid down guidelines to prevent violation of fundamental rights of citizens. These are applicable to the Central law enforcing agencies as well. Regular mechanism exists within the Central law enforcing agencies to screen the cases before they are sent to courts for prosecution.

[*Translation*]

NDMC Electricity/Water Bill

3691. SHRI BHERULAL MEENA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the New Delhi Municipal Corporation has increased the rates of electricity and water from 15.9.98;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the basis on which each Government employee was sent enhanced bills for more than 1000 rupees for two months in September 1998;

(d) if so, whether the electricity department of the NDMD has issued a public notice to adjust this enhanced amount in subsequent bill;

(e) whether the NDMC has set up a separate counter to adjust the amount of the bill; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The Bills for September, 1998 in respect of Government employees also included arrears. However, consumers have been allowed to pay these arrears in instalments if they so desire.

(e) and (f) A separate complaint office under the supervision of Assistant Secretary (Rates) assisted by a Section Officer and seventy junior/senior clerks has been set up at Palika Kendra to attend to the complaints of consumers regarding electricity and water bills.

[*English*]

Creation of Ministry for Border Security

3692. SHRI DILEEP SANGHANI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Gujarat has created Ministry for Border Security in the State to provide security to the country's frontiers; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.