

(d) whether the Government have chalked out any scheme to rescue these children from such a painful situation and to ensure education and protection to them; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) No nation wide survey regarding number of child beggars and children used for begging in the country has been undertaken by the Ministry as such. However, according to a report of the Registrar General of India, the total number of beggars in 1991 in the country (except J&K) was 544048. Out of which, number of male beggars was 333334 and that of female beggars was 210714.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The information is not maintained by the Ministry as the subject is dealt with by the States under their respective Anti-Beggary laws.

(d) to (e) Beggars home under Anti-Beggary Law or under any other scheme, are established by State Governments. The Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment has schemes for street children and delinquent juveniles which includes child beggars for giving grant-in-aid to State Govts and Non-Governmental Organisations for providing Institutional and Non-institutional basic services for the care, protection, vocational education and development of children facing destitution neglect, abuse and exploitation.

[Translation]

#### **Relationship between Terrorist Groups**

2974. SHRI ADITYANATH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the relationship between the various terrorist groups in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action being taken by the Government to stop their anti-national activities?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) and (b) There are reports of relationship between some terrorist groups in the country, especially those operating in the North Eastern States.

(c) 'Public Order' and 'Police' being State subjects, it is for the concerned State Government to devise various methods and take concrete steps in this regard. At the Central level, action is being taken to facilitate coordination of the anti-terrorist operations of different States and to improve flow of information useful for control of their activities among the States. Further, help is being provided to the State Governments in terms of financial assistance for modernisation of police, supply of improved weapons, deployment of para military forces etc. In certain special circumstances, financial assistance has also been given to some of the affected States over and above the on-going allocation for modernisation of police and supply of weapons.

#### **Welfare Scheme for Destitute Children**

2975. SHRI DAROGA PRASAD SAROJ: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to formulate any scheme for the welfare of destitute children;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the assistance being extended by the Government for implementation of the above scheme, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) to (c) The Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment does not propose to formulate any scheme for the welfare of destitute children as it is already implementing two schemes for the Welfare of Street Children and neglected and delinquent juveniles. Under the Scheme for street children upto 90% financial assistance is provided to eligible NGO's for establishing drop in shelters for street children. While under the scheme for neglected and delinquent juveniles upto 50% financial assistance is provided to State Governments for construction and maintenance of observation homes, Juvenile Homes, Special Homes and After Care Homes established under the Juvenile Justice Act, 1986. The State-wise details of assistance extended to NGO's and State Governments under the two schemes is given in the Statements I & II.