

Demand of More Para-Military Forces

1053. SHRI T. GOVINDAN : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Tripura have demanded for more Para-Military forces from the Union Government to curb the extremist activities/Insurgency in the State;

(b) if so, the action taken by the Union Government thereon;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Central Para-Military Forces are made available to the State Governments to assist them to maintain public order. The levels of deployment depend upon over all security scenario and the availability of Central Para-Military Forces. Accordingly, Central Para-Military Forces have been made available to Government of Tripura keeping in view the overall availability of these forces.

[Translation]

Fund for Family Planning

1054. SHRI JAYSINHJI CHAUHAN : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the total grant-in-aid provided to Gujarat for family planning programme during 1997-98;

(b) whether the total amount granted by the Government has been utilised by the State Government;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) An amount of Rs. 7505.43 lakhs was released to Gujarat in cash and kind.

(b) to (d) The Grant-in-Aid- to States is both in cash and kind. The assistance in kind includes drug kits, dispensary kits, contraceptives etc. It is given on the basis of utilisation/requirements, and so there is no surplus. The assistance in cash, is initially given on the basis of assessed requirement for salaries etc, and is finally settled on the basis of audited accounts.

Compensation Cases

1055. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VARMA : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of cases received for compensation in connection with Bhopal Gas tragedy at present;

(b) the total number of cases received in the beginning and the number of cases disposed of;

(c) the number of cases which have been rejected out of them and the number of cases in which nothing has been paid as compensation amount to the applicant; and

(d) the number of cases pending in courts and the time by which these are likely to be disposed of ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. A.K. PATEL) : (a) During the period December'96 to February'97, when fresh claims were invited, a total of 4.08 lakh claims have been filed.

(b) to (d) The position of disposal of earlier cases, as on 30.4.98 is as follows :

Claims registered	6.19 lakhs
Claims disposed	6.14 lakhs
Claims rejected	2.72 lakhs
Claims pending	0.05 lakhs

The office of the Welfare Commissioner, Bhopal Gas Victims, has informed that the pending cases are likely to be disposed of by the end of June '98.

[English]

Bomb Explosions

1056. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a series of Bomb Explosions killed passengers and injured several others in Tamil Nadu, Kerala and other places of the country during December, 1997;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government of Tamil Nadu, has sought CBI probe into the train blasts; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) and (b) According to information available, on 6.12.1997, there were three bomb explosions in three different trains, one in the Cheran Express at the Erode Railway Station, one in the Pandian Express at the