

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2424

ANSWERED ON:08.08.2000

NEW ANTI-TERRORISTS ACT

A. VENKATESH NAIK;ABUL HASNAT KHAN;AJAY CHAKRABORTY;BRAHMANAND MANDAL;GADDE RAMAMOCHAN;M.V.V.S MURTHI;SHANKAR PRASAD JAISWAL;SUBODH MOHITE;Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government propose to enact a new law to deal with cross border terrorism and insurgency;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the latest position in this regard;
- (c) whether the National Human Rights Commission has opposed the new law;
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (e) the reaction of the Government thereto; and
- (f) the further steps likely to be taken by the Government in the matter?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO)

(a)to(f): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT FOR PARTS (a),(b),(c),(d),(e) & (f) in Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No.2424 for answer on 08.08.2000

The Law Commission of India has submitted the draft Prevention of Terrorism Bill, 2000. The draft bill seeks to provide Law enforcement agencies with suitable powers to effectively deal with the growing menace of terrorism in the country. It also contains provisions for checking misuse of the powers by investigating agencies.

The National Human Rights Commission has expressed reservations on the need for a fresh law to deal with the problem of terrorism. According to their view:

(i) the present laws if implemented effectively and suitably amended wherever required , are sufficient to deal with the problem of terrorism, and

(ii) the provisions of the Prevention of Terrorism Bill, 2000 provide powers capable of gross misuse.

The Government has invited the views of all the State Governments and UT Administrations on the various provisions of the Draft Prevention of Terrorism Bill, 2000 as formulated by the Law Commission of India. The Government will take into consideration the observations made by the NHRC and will also hold consultations with political parties, other groups etc. with a view to harmonise security measures with civil liberties before a final view is taken in the matter.