

consent to meet 50% of the project cost. CIPET has informally inspected three sites in and around Guwahati. One site will be finalised in consultation with the local authorities. The project is expected to be completed within three years from the date of handing over of the land to CIPET.

Vidharbha State 205

86. SHRI RAMKRISHNA BABA PATIL ;
SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received representations for the creation of separate Vidharbha State;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) to (c) Representations have been received for the creation of a separate State of Vidharbha from various organisations, such as, Maharashtra State Indira Congress Committee (Tiwari), Mumbai; Vidharbha Sangarsh Parishad, Nagpur and Vidharbha Rajya Congress Kriti Samiti, Nagpur. A representation from certain Members of Parliament and prominent leaders has also been received.

[Translation]

Creation of New States

87. SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the criteria laid down for creation of new States;

(b) whether the demand to give Statehood to Andaman and Nicobar Island has been made since long;

(c) if so, whether Government propose to give Statehood like Delhi to Andaman and Nicobar;

(d) if so, the time by which it is likely to be accorded; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) to (e) At present, the Government is considering only those cases for grant of Statehood where the concerned State Legislatures have passed resolutions recommending the creation of new States.

There has been a demand for grant of Statehood to the Andaman and Nicobar Islands. However, keeping in view strategic, economic and other considerations, it is not proposed to alter the existing status of this island territory at this stage.

[English]

Detection of Human Skulls in Mumbai

88. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT ;
SHRI RAMKRISHNA BABA PATIL :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of human skulls found in Mumbai in January, 1999;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have set up any enquiry in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details of findings of the committee?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

White Paper on ISI Activities

89. SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to issue a white paper on the terrorist activities of ISI in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have ascertained the States where ISI terrorism exist;

(d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(e) whether any terrorist groups is receiving any help for terrorist activities from ISI;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the steps taken on the borders to check the infiltration of terrorists from other countries?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) and (b) A 'White Paper' is being prepared on the terrorist activities of Pak ISI in the country.

(c) and (d) Activities of Pak ISI have been noticed in J&K, Punjab, certain North-Eastern States and certain other parts of the country where modules of ISI have been unearthed from time to time.

(e) and (f) Pakistan has been sponsoring/supporting various terrorist activities in India by way of training, weapons and financial support etc.

(g) The Government have adopted a multi-pronged approach to tackle infiltration on the border which includes inter-alia, strengthening the border management, gearing up intelligence machinery, improved interaction with border population, setting up of outposts of security forces, constituting Village Defence Committees, modernisation and upgradation of police and security forces with advanced/sophisticated weapons and communication systems etc.

Rape Cases

90. SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK:
SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of cases of rapes with adult and minor girls separately registered in the country during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the number of such rape cases in which the family members/relatives were involved during the said period, State-wise;

(c) the number of persons arrested in this regard;

(d) whether the Government propose to make any changes or modification in the law and enforce

strict mechanism to ensure that culprits in such cases are effectively brought to book;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the preventive steps taken by the Government to check such crimes?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) Available information in this regard pertaining to the years 1995, 1996 and 1997 is given in the enclosed statement.

(b) The information sought is not maintained separately.

(c) The number of persons arrested for committing rape during the years 1995, 1996 and 1997 was as under :

Year	Number of persons arrested
1995	18,848
1996	19,623
1997	20,048

(d) to (f) 'Public Order' and 'Police' are State subjects as per the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India. The registration, investigation and detection of crime as well as its prevention are essentially the responsibility of the State Governments. The Central Government is presently considering a proposal to provide for death penalty for rapists.

Statement

Incidence of Rape on Adult and Minor Girls during the year 1995, 1996 and 1997

S.No.	State/UT	Victims of Rape					
		1995		1996		1997	
		Below 16 Years	Above 16 Years	Below 16 Years	Above 16 Years	Below 16 Years	Above 16 Years
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8

States:

1.	Andhra Pradesh	322	534	269	543	347	600
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	25	14	23	27	16
3.	Assam	157	431	147	433	195	522
4.	Bihar	349	963	217	1236	198	1259
5.	Goa	11	8	5	5	8	7
6.	Gujarat	96	213	117	189	130	245
7.	Haryana	112	199	127	209	156	217
8.	Himachal Pradesh	53	63	52	80	48	81