

Government of Bangladesh is that there is no illegal Bangladesh immigrants in India, they have assured that measures will be taken to strengthen security at the border to prevent illegal border crossing.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Economic Package to Jammu and Kashmir

1969. SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government had announced an economic package during 1996-97 for Jammu and Kashmir which also included the provision for establishing of Agriculture University in Jammu;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to implement the package for Jammu and Kashmir;

(c) whether there is delay in the setting up of Agriculture University in Jammu; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) to (d) The then Prime Minister had announced an economic package for Jammu & Kashmir in both Houses of Parliament in July/August, 1996. However, this package did not include the establishment of an Agriculture University at Jammu. Following up action is being taken for implementing the economic package announced by the Prime Minister.

Subsequently, in the context of the high-level team sent by the ICAR on a request made by the Government of J&K in August, 1996, the then Prime Minister stated at Jammu on 13-14th February, 1997 that in consultation with the State Government, a decision will be taken to start the Agriculture University at Jammu from the next year.

The question of fund support was discussed in a meeting held in the Planning Commission on 22.07.98 and it was decided that the Agriculture University be started in a phased manner by upgrading and strengthening the existing facilities with a financial support of Rs. 40 crores during the Ninth Five Year Plan. (Rs. 25 crores by the Centre through ICAR and Rs. 15 crores in the State Plan). The State Government is required to issue a notification and appoint the Vice-Chancellor.

Guest House

1970. SHRI E. AHAMED: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that Guest House are being used as hideouts for terrorists;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of cases registered and persons arrested so far; and

(d) the action taken by the Government to stop such illegal activities?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) (a) and (b) Reports available indicate that lodges/hotels are being used by the militants in Jammu and Kashmir for taking shelter and organising meetings.

(c) 772 militants have been arrested in Jammu and Kashmir from 1997 till 15.2.99 under substantive laws and cases registered against them.

(d) Government have adopted a well coordinated and multipronged approach for tackling the situation which inter-alia includes strengthening the border management, neutralising plans of militants by proactive steps against them in the hinterland, as also setting up of outposts of security forces and constitutes Village Defence Committees, gearing up intelligence machinery, modernisation and upgradation of police and security forces with advanced/sophisticated weapons and communication system, training etc.

Metro Rail System in Cochin

1971. SHRI GEORGE EDEN: Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Kerala has submitted any proposal in regard to Metro Railway Transport System; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the present status thereof?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI RAM JETHMALANI): (a) and (b) A proposal for Central assistance was received from the Government of Kerala in February, 1998 for carrying out