

Manhandling of Journalists by Police

10230. SHRI P.M. SAYEED: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Journalists and Press Photographers of Delhi converting a demonstration by teachers on 30 April, 1990 were manhandled and abused by some police officers;

(b) if so, the facts of the incident;

(c) the action taken by Government against the erring officers; and

(d) if no action has been taken, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d). On 30.4.90, when Government teachers were demonstrating at Parliament Street, they themselves stopped about 5 yards before the barricades in front of Police Station Parliament Street, New Delhi. In order to cover the event, one of the photographers climbed the barricade. When persuasions made by the police failed, he was made to get down. Subsequently, other photographers joined him and argued with the police to allow them to climb the barricades. The timely intervention by a Senior Police Officer pacified most of them but one photographer threatened to get action taken against police officers. As no police officer was found at fault, no action was taken.

Construction of Building for Dabri Police Station

10231. SHRI JAGANNATH SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether land has been allotted for the construction of building for Dabri Police Station in Palam Road, New Delhi;

(b) if so, the target fixed for the construction of the building; and

(c) the approximate cost of the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In order to meet the emergent requirements, construction of one temporary barrack with asbestos sheet roofing has been undertaken, which is targeted for completion by July, 1990.

(c) The estimated cost of the project for constructing a permanent Police Station is yet to be finalised.

Opening of New Post Office at Sagarpur, New Delhi

10232. DR. P. VALLAL PERUMAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to refer to the reply given on 9 May, 1989 to Unstarred Question No. 8600 regarding opening of Post Office at Sagarpur, New Delhi and state:

(a) whether a new Post Office has been sanctioned and opened in Sagarpur, New Delhi-110046;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be opened?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) A new Sub Post Office has been sanctioned for Sagarpur New Delhi, but not yet opened.

(b) and (c). The Sub Post Office is expected to be opened as soon as the requisite formalities are completed, by 30.6.1990.

S.T.D. Facility In Tripura

10233. SHRI K.B. DEB BURMAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether S.T.D. facilities have been provided in any of the telephone exchanges in Tripura;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken by Government to provide Tripura with an effective, dependable telephone network; and

(d) the time by which the remaining telephone exchanges will be provided with STD facility?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) While Agartala is connected with NSD/ISD facility, Radhakishorepur and Kailashahar are connected to Agartala on Point-to-Point S.T.D.

(c) Department has plans to replace the existing telephone exchanges by Electronic Exchanges subject to norms and new electronic exchanges have been proposed subject to availability of equipment and demand.

For the effective telephone network Satellite Earth Stations and radio links have been planned.

(d) S.T.D. facility at Radhakishorepur and Kailashhar will be available during the current financial year.

STD facility to additional stations in

Tripura State will be provided progressively—

(i) to all Sub-Divisional Headquarters; and

(ii) exchanges with more than 500 lines as on 1.4.90.

Carrying of Weapons as Religious Symbol

10234. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the issue of taking weapons considered as part of religion and faith by certain communities, in educational institutions, examinations and public places, other than religious ones, is under consideration of Government;

(b) if so, by what time, directions in this regard are likely to be issued; and

(c) if not, steps sites Government propose to take to curb the spurt of violence, where such weapons were used during the recent past in such institutions/occasions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Powers of the Central Government under the Arms Act, 1959 and the Arms Rules, 1962 to regulate possession and carrying of arms are delegated to State Governments/Union Territories Administration. These powers enable them to take appropriate preventive measure in this regard.

Mini-Fertilizer Plants

10235. SHRI A.K. ROY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state: