

Chittagong Hill tracts in Bangladesh have expressed a desire for tripartite talks involving the Governments of India, Bangladesh and Jumbas representatives for evolving a long-term solution to the problems facing by them; and

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL): (a) Yes, Sir. Some representatives of the tribal population of the Chittagong Hill Tracts in Bangladesh (sometimes referred to as the Jumma people) have expressed a desire for tripartite talks involving the Governments of India and Bangladesh and tribal representatives for evolving a long term solution to the problems facing them.

(b) The Government believe that it is the responsibility of the Bangladesh Government to take the necessary steps to create the conditions which will enable the tribals to live in peace and security in the Chittagong Hill Tracts, and, for the tribals in refugee camps in India, to return voluntarily to their homes at the earliest.

Setting up of Committee to Examine Activities of J&K and Punjab Terrorists

8062. SHRI KUSUMA KRISHNA MURTHY:
SHRI P. NARSA REDDY:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have set up a high level committee to examine and act on the intelligence information relating to the activities of terrorist groups in Punjab and Jammu and Kashmir; and

(b) if so, its composition and other details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) and (b). No Sir. However, an Inter-Ministerial Advisory Group constituted to assess the developing situation in certain troubled areas including Punjab and J&K on a regular basis to evolve ideas and suggestions regarding the Government's responses and line of action from time-to-time.

Meetings of the Advisory Group are attended by senior officers of the Cabinet Secretariat Home, Defence and Foreign Ministries and of Intelligence Agencies.

Disbanding of Telecom Commission

8063. SHRI HARMOHAN DHAWAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state whether there is any proposal to disband both the Telecom Commission and C-DOT and create altogether a new organisation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): No, Sir.

[Translation]

Purchase of Books of Jawahar Lal Nehru by Indian Missions Abroad

8064. SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of copies of selected works of Late Prime Minister Jawahar Lal Nehru and his other books purchased by Indian Missions abroad during the last five years; and

(b) the total expenditure incurred thereon?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL): (a) and (b). The required information is being collected. It will be laid on the table of the House shortly.

[*English*]

Expansion of Telephone Exchanges in Kottayam District in Kerala

8065. SHRIRAMESH CHENNITHALA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposals to

expand the ettumanoor, Pampady, Vakathanam, Ponkunnam, Athirampuzha and kanjikizhy exchanges in Kottayam district Kerala; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) Yes Sir, except Athirampuzha. There is no telephone exchange at Athirampuzha and this is served by Ettumanoor and Gandhinagar exchange: