

minds of the people of Jammu and Kashmir about preserving their identity and self-respect.

What steps have the Government taken or contemplate to take insofar as to preserve the identity and self-respect of the Jammu and Kashmir people?

SHRI S.B. CHAVAN: I am in full agreement with the hon Member. The Government has done nothing to obliterate their Kashmirian identity, as they would like to call it. If the hon. Member feels that any particular step goes contrary to what this Government is stating, certainly we are prepared to reconsider it. But we fully believe that their identity and their self-respect needs to be maintained.

SHRI CHANDRAJEET YADAV: The House unanimously passed a resolution on the situation of J & K. That itself is a very important step the House in its wisdom decided to take. I see that a right kind of message has also gone with the unanimity on this issue. In view of what the Home Minister has said when he visited there many local people suggested certain measures for employment and certain necessary steps to be taken to strengthen the administration to create insurgency and in view of another issue raised by Shri Atal Bihariji about the rehabilitation of the people who left the Kashmir Valley and have gone to different parts of the country, will the Minister consider the possibility - again I hope and think that the president's rule is going to be extended there - of having an advisory committee of the Parliament here in Delhi, so that all these questions about the employment, the strengthening of administration, rehabilitation and the larger political aspect of Kashmir can be considered in that committee?

SHRI S.B. CHAVAN: Actually I have already conceded that such an advisory committee needs to be appointed, so that on such an intricate issue if I were to get the feedback from different sections it would be really for the benefit of the Government. The only point was whether it should be confined to the Members of Parliament or there are some outsiders also who may be in a better position to give their own feedback also. That is the only point which was still under the consideration and might be in a few weeks time we will be able to finalise the idea.

ISI Activities In North-East

*42. SHRI MANORANJAN
BHAKTA:
SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any information regarding ISI activities in the North-East;

(b) if so, the details thereof:

(c) the steps taken to check such activities in the region:

(d) whether any assistance has been provided to these States for modernisation of police forces during 1993-94;

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

(f) whether the Governments of North-Eastern States have asked for Central assistance, financial or otherwise, to meet the situation in the recent past;

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

(h) the action taken by the Union Government in each case?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P.M. SAYEED) : (a) to (h). A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) to (c). There are reports of certain insurgent groups in the North-East being supported by the pak ISI agents in Bangladesh for the provision of safe havens, training, weapons etc. The major insurgent/extremist groups stand declared as

“unlawful” and the affected areas notified as “disturbed” area. The situation is being closely monitored by the Central Government and review meetings are held with senior officers of the N.E. States. Home Minister personally reviewed the security related issues in a meeting with the Governor of Manipur and the Chief Minister of the N.E. States on 22nd January, 1994 at Shillong.

(d) to (h). For modernisation of state police Forces of N.E. States following grants have been sanctioned by the Government of India during 1993-94.-

Name of the State	Allocation	1st instalment	2nd instalment
1. Arunachal Pradesh	Rs. 46.27 lakhs	Rs. 23.13 lakhs	Rs. 23.14 lakhs
2. Assam	Rs. 95.43 lakhs	Rs. 47.72 lakhs	.
3. Manipur	Rs. 34.63 lakhs	Rs. 17.32 lakhs	Rs. 17.31 lakhs
4. Meghalaya	Rs. 25.94 lakhs	Rs. 12.97 lakhs	*
5. Mizoram	Rs. 43.88 lakhs	Rs. 21.94 lakhs	Rs. 21.94 lakhs
6. Nagaland	Rs. 38.43 lakhs	Rs. 15.42 lakhs	Rs. 19.21 lakhs
7. Tripura	Rs. 46.53 lakhs	Rs. 23.26 lakhs	*

(* 2nd instalment to the remaining states will be released on receipt of 100% Utilisation Certificate for the funds released during 1992-93).

Besides what has been given under the scheme for Modernisation of the Police Force, special Financial Assistance to the tune of Rs. 27.10 crores during 1993-94 has been released to the following states to tackle insurgency :-

Assam	Rs. 14.70 crores
Nagaland	Rs. 7.40 crores
Manipur	Rs. 5.00 crores
	Rs. 27.10 crores

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: I am sorry that in reply that we have got enough seriousness has not been shown in dealing with this question. We are aware of the country's experience about the ISI activities in Indian as to how they are trying to destabilise the India political scenario. If what has been reported in the Press not only in the country but outside also is taken into account, it is a very serious situation the ISI design and how they are trying to involve themselves in Indian internal matters to destabilise this country.

MR. SPEAKER: Please come to the question.

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: It is astonishing that a country like Bangladesh where we have no historical animosity is also involved in training, arming, funding, sheltering of these insurgents from their country. I do not know whether there are some other countries also involved in this. In view of this, I would like to know from the hon. Home Minister whether the Government is aware of the report prepared by the US House of Representatives in this matter which indicate the involvement of the ISI in the northeastern region of India. Assam CM and Manipur CM have repeatedly over a

number of years written to the Home Ministry in this connection. What action has been taken in this regard? I would like to know whether the Government of India is having the report.....

MR. SPEAKER: Not like this, please.

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: Sir, I am asking the question.

MR. SPEAKER: You have to ask coherent questions, not questions on two extremes.

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: I am asking the question. I would like to know whether the Government of India has taken up in the international forum or the SAARC forum regarding this kind of patronage to the ISI activities in the northeastern region by our neighbouring countries.

SHRI P.M. S̄AYEED: It is true that there are reports of certain insurgent groups in the northeastern region being supported by ISI agents in Bangladesh for provision of safe haven and training and giving weapons, etc. The major insurgent extremist groups stand declared unlawful and the affected areas notified as disturbed areas. But the situation is being closely monitored by the Central Government and review meetings are held with senior officers of the northeastern States. The Home Minister himself personally reviewed the security related issues in a meeting recently. He also met the Governor of Manipur and the Chief Ministers of the northeastern States on 22nd January 1994 at Shillong to meet effectively this problem in the northeastern region.

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS: (SHRI S.B. CHAVAN): May I supplement sir? Actually not only Bangladesh but there are some other countries. It would not be in

the public interest to reveal the names of the countries. We would like to have good neighbourly relations with all the countries. But at the diplomatic level we have taken up these issues with all the countries.

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: I would like to know whether the Government of India has decided to set up unified command to deal effectively and to control the ISI conspired insurgency in the northeastern region of the country. As for the reply which has been given that assistance provided to the States for modernisation of their forces, there it has been said that the second instalment will be released on receipt of one hundred per cent utilisation certificate the funds released during 1992-93. I would like to know whether the country's security will for the utilisation certificate in this country. Naturally wherever it is necessary for the modernisation, Government will have to go in a bigger way.

SHRI P.M. SAYEED: He is referring to the assistance given to the those States under the modernisation scheme. This is an on-going scheme. This is not specially to meet the insurgents in the northeastern States. Particularly in the States of Assam, Nagaland and Manipur, special assistance has been given to the tune of Rs. 27.10 crore. So in the case of modernisation of State forces the first instalment has already been paid to all the seven States. In the case of four States only, the 100 per cent utilisation certificate for the funds released has been asked for because the certificates are pending for the year 1992-93. But the moment we receive it, of course the funds would be released.

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: I would like to know whether the Government is going to set up the unified command.

SHRI P.M. SAYEED: Yes.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: My interest in this question arose out of the fact that there is a report that the Chief Minister of Assam, Mr. Hiteswar Saikia, addressing some pressmen in January this year is reported to have said that as soon as he came to know about the activities of the ISI, Pakistan Military Intelligence Agency, in Assam in 1992, he wrote to the Home Minister about this

Since then, he has been clamouring for reinforcement of Central para-military forces to take on this problem there complaining that he has had no response. Some money has been given, of course. There is a table of financial assistance. But he was asking specifically for additional companies of para-military forces.

He says that in 1992, he had come to know about the activity of the ISI -Pakistan military intelligence agency - in Assam and had informed the Home Ministry about it. On the basis of whatever information Mr. Saikia may have given to the Centre, are they convinced or not convinced that this intelligence agency is working in Assam and in other States in the North-East or have they just dismissed the Chief Minister's statement as not being worth bothering about?

SHRI S.B. CHAVAN: Actually, I am thankful to the hon. member that he has not quoted the other statement which the Assam, Chief Minister has made and which confronted him on 22nd when I was there in the North-Eastern region. At Shillong we had a meeting of all the economic ministers and also the meeting of the NEC. I confronted him with that statement: "Has he ever made this kind of statement? He denied the same.

From 1992 onwards, in fact all our para-

military forces were engaged in different parts of the country. It is not that intentionally we were not trying to give. That is not correct. But as soon as we get the forces back, we send them to different areas physically, without giving them even a day's rest. They are being taken to different areas. Assam also got the same but not to the extent he has been saying. As soon as we get the forces back, certainly we will be sending them.

SHRI BIJOY KRISHNA HANDIQUÉ: Mr. Speaker, Sir, may I know from the hon. Minister whether a Bombay mafia don suspected to be connected with Bombay blasts, was recently arrested on Indo-Bangladesh border?

If so, may I know whether Government is investigating to find out if his presence in this region indicates any possible attempt at RDX entry in our country along the North-Eastern border with the help of the ISI agents based in Bangladesh? Has any clue been found out? (*Interruptions*)

SHRI P.M. SAYEED: We do not have the information just now available with us.

SHRI BIJOY KRISHNA HANDIQUÉ: It was reported in all the newspapers.

SHRI YAIMA SINGH YUMNAM: Sir, whether the Government is aware of the fact that on account of certain factors, the activities of our police force is ineffective. These factors are: the sophisticated weapons are available with the insurgents and terrorists organised in the State of Manipur.

Secondly, the Government could not arm our police force with the sophisticated weapons. At the moment, they are armed with outdated weapons.

Thirdly, the Government announced that *ex gratia* grant will be given to the victims or to those police personnel who are killed while encountering the extremists but they are not paid.

Fourthly.....

MR. SPEAKER: You have to ask only one supplementary.

SHRI YAIMA SINGH YUMNAM:.... although the funds are made available, yet the Government is not so sincere in raising the police force to face the extremists.

Are these facts?

SHRI P.M. SAYEED: The first part of his question relates to the sophisticated weapons available with the insurgents. That is true.

And that is the reason why we are also modernising our force. A little while ago, I read out the figures in this regard. Therefore, this is one thing that the Government has uppermost in its mind, namely, to modernise our force to match any such eventualities coming from the insurgents.

Secondly, with regard to the *ex-gratia* payments to the police personnel killed in the encounter, if he has any case, I will look into it. In principle, *ex-gratia* payment is made.

MR. SPEAKER: Do not wait for the information from then. You get it yourself and pay it please. The police force is with you.

SHRI P.M. SAYEED: The local police is in the State.

MR. SPEAKER: You get it please.

SHRI P.M. SAYEED: Yes, Sir.

SHRI S. B. CHAVAN: About the first part of the question, it is a fact that the local police did not have sophisticated weapons. In certain areas, we did give sophisticated weapons to the local police but unfortunately, instead of using those weapons, they have lost their weapons to the insurgents. That also happened in Manipur. That is the kind of situation which, in fact, will add to our difficulty. So, we are rather careful to see that sophisticated weapons have to be provided but they will have to be properly trained before sophisticated weapons can be given to them.

The last part of the question which the hon. Member asked is about raising of the Indian Reserve Police. Actually, orders have been issued and 100 per cent, it is now given to them immediately. But it is for them to raise the force, give the proper training and utilise the force in their security arrangements.

[Translation]

Pension to Freedom Fighters

*43. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA:
SHRI MAHESH KANODIA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise number of freedom

fighters receiving pension from the Union Government, category-wise:

(b) the annual expenditure being incurred on payment of pension to the freedom fighters;

(c) whether the applications from freedom fighters seeking pension are being received even now;

(d) if so, the number of cases pending with the Union Government, State-wise;

(e) whether the Government have received any complaints of bogus claims; and

(f) if so, the action taken thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM LAL RAH): (a) to (f). A Statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT

1. From the inception of the scheme, pension has so far been sanctioned to 1,61,630 freedom fighters, including their dependants. Statement showing State-wise number of freedom fighters who have been sanctioned pension by Central Government is attached as annexure I. Freedom Fighters' Pension has been sanctioned to the following categories of freedom fighters:

	<i>Category</i>	<i>No. Of Freedom Fighters</i>
1.	Ex-Andaman political prisoners	285
2.	Freedom fighters who suffered 5 years imprisonment in mainland jails and outside British India	8
3.	Freedom Fighters who have been granted freedom fighters, pension <i>suo motu</i>	279
4.	Others	1,61,058
	TOTAL	1,61,630