

Funding for Terrorism Activities

2230. SHRI PINAKI MISRA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to news-item captioned "Exposed: Militant Money-Go-Round" appearing in the "Blitz", dated June 1, 1996;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken to curb the activities of terrorists and traitors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The Government are seized of reports of various secessionist leaders and organisations in Jammu and Kashmir having received large sums of money from diverse channels and sources in contravention of the law. Notices have been issued to 42 individuals and 21 organisations under the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act. (FCRA). Action on these notices, as well as for violation of the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act (FERA) is being pursued vigorously by the concerned agencies. It will not be in the interest of the ongoing inquiries/investigations to disclose more details at this stage.

Poaching of Gir Lions

2231. SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to rampant illegal poaching of the lions in the Gir forest;

(b) the cases of poaching of lions from Gir forest reserves which came to light during 1994, 1995 and 1996 so far; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to effectively prevent such poaching?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) and (b). There is no rampant poaching of lions in the Gir forests of Gujarat. The cases of lion poaching detected in the last 3 years is as under :

1994-95	-	Nil	.
1995-96	-	2	
1996-97	-	3 (upto June, 1996)	

(c) The State Government have reported that necessary steps have been taken to strengthen the

existing protection and conservation measures for Gir lions. These include : Strengthening enforcement system, including wireless network ; implementing eco-development programme; developing habitat for wildlife; and deploying additional manpower to strengthen the protection measures.

Besides, in the poaching cases mentioned above, 13 persons were arrested, 3 guns were seized, 3 forest officials suspended, and a complaint filed in the Court of Law.

[Translation]

Illegal Occupation of Seats

2232. SHRI VIJAY GOEL :
KUMARI UMA BHARATI :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the gang involved in occupying seats in the unreserved coaches and selling the same to the passengers at Delhi railway station;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have arrested some persons in this connection; and

(d) if so, the action taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) to (d). Incidents of cornering of seats in unreserved compartments have been detected in Delhi area during the preventive checks conducted by the railway. During the last three years, 93 licensed porters have been taken up for cornering of seats and 288 anti-social elements indulging in this apprehended and prosecuted under the relevant sections of the Railway Act, 1989.

[English]

Offices of NAFED/NCCF

2233. SHRI SARAT PATTANAYAK : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are considering to open offices of NAFED and NCCF in the backward areas of the country during 1996-97 to provide marketing support to these areas; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) No, Sir. NAFED operates through its member societies i.e. State Cooperative Marketing Federations and Primary Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Societies all over the country besides its own branches at State Head-