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THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA) : (a) and (b). The detail are as under :

	Total number of foreigners				
Year	Apprehended by BSF	Pushed back	Handed over to police for action under the law		
1994	39	6	33		
1995	4 5	1	44		
1996 (upto J	165 une)	2	163		

(c) Following steps have been taken :

- (i) Border partolling has been intesified by providing camels and tractors and nakas have been increased.
- (ii) OP Towers have been erected.
- (iii) Binoculars, goggles, twin telescopes, night vision devices and hand held search lights have been provided for enhanced vigilance on the border.
- (iv) Boats/Motor boats have been provided for patrolling riverline areas.
- (v) Intelligence set up of the BSF has been geared up for keeping close surveillance on the border.

Recommendations of Human Rights Commission

*268. SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state .

(a) whether the National Human Rights Commission has cautioned the Government that the delay in tackling human rights violation could lead to revival of militancy and terrorism in Punjab and J&K;

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

(c) whether the Commission has made recommendations on the human rights issue;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Union Government have examined these recommendations; and

(f) if so, the steps taken to implement them?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA): (a) and (b) In the report of its visit to Punjab in April 1994, the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has inter-alia, mentioned that a large number of delegations that met the Commission were of the opinion that terrorism had only been contained and not totally eliminated. According to them. apart from the work done by the security forces or the police, the issues which were highlighted by the terrorists in the initial years of the movement need to be tackled without further loss of time. Based on this, the Commission has expressed opinion that delay in tackling of these issues could be a factor in any possible revial of militancy and terrorism in the State. This report of the NHRC has been sent to the State Govt, for appropriate follow-up action. The Commission has not made any observations like these in respect of J&K.

(c) to (f). The NHRC has made several recommendations on issues of human rights through its Annual Reports. The first two Annual Reports of the Commission for 1993-94 and 1994-95 were examined by the Government and laid on the table of both Houses of Parliament alongwith memoranda of action taken by the Govt. on each recommendation. The Annual Report for 1995-96 has also been submitted by the Commission. The recommendations of the Commission contained in this report are under examination. This Annual Report, alongwith a memorandum of action taken on each recommendation will be laid on the table of both Houses of Parliament during the current Session.

Drug Price Control

*269. DR RAM CHANDRA DOME : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) the major drugs exempted from the price control in the latest 'Drug Price Control Order';

(b) whether the curtailing of list of the controlled drugs has led to a sharp increase in the price's of a number of medicines: and

(c) whether the Government propose to reconsider the list in the near future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLÀ): (a) Selection of drugs for price control has been done on the basis of the criteria. as laid down in the 'Modifications in the Drug Policy, 1986'. On the basis of data for the year 1989-90 Drugs, with a turnover of Rs. 400 lakhs or more, having Market Competition and drugs with a turnover of Rs. 100 lakhs or above but below Rs. 400 lakhs, having monopoly situation have, therefore, not come under price control.

(b) Against 142 drugs in price control under DPCO'87, presently there are 76 drugs in price control under DPCO'95, however, these 76 drugs include 21 drugs which were having very high turnover but were outside price control earlier. Studies conducted from time to time after coming into force of DPCO, 1995 indicate that increase of medicine prices is generally not across the board and abnormal. There is also decrease in prices in some cases.

(c) Reconsideration is dependent upon availability of updated data as provided for in para 22.7.2 (v) of 'Modifications in Drug Policy, 1986'.

Custodial Deaths in Delhi

*270. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : SHRI PINAKI MISRA :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "Custodial deaths shoot up in Delhi" which appeared in the "Indian Express", dated May 13, 1996;

(b) if so, the number of deaths occurred in police custody during 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96, till date Union-territory-wise; and

(c) the main reasons for the increasingly high custodial deaths in Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The requisite information is given below :

S.	Union Territory	Deaths which occurred in police custody				
Nc		1993-94	1994-95	1995-96 (upto	1996-97 30.6.96)	
1.	Delhi*	2	2	5	-	
2.	Pondicherry	1	-	-	-	
3.	A and N Islands	-	-	•	-	
4.	Chandigarh	-		-	-	
5.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	-	-		-	
6.	Daman and Diu	-	-			
7.	Lakshadweep		-	-	-	

*Note : As reported by the Delhi Police.

(c) Deaths in police custody are always unfortunate. However, it is encouraging to note that no such death has occurred in any of the Union Territories during the current year.

[Translation] .

Firing Incidents on Indo-Pak Border

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*271. SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH : SHRI DEVI BUX SINGH :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Indian soldiers/citizens killed in firing on the Indo-Pak border during the last three months;

(b) the number of incidents of firing, which took place on the Indo-Pak border: and

(c) the Aompensation/financial assistance provided to the dependants of the victims of the firing? THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA) : (a) to (c). During the last three months, there has been no firing on the Indo-Pak border. adjoining the States of Rajasthan, Gujarat and Punjab but on International Border (IB) of J and K/Line of Control (LC) Pakistani troops have fired on 1017 occasions in which eight Army personnel and five civilians were killed. The personnel are being paid compensation/financial assistance as per scales laid down by Ministry of Defence/Army Authorities. The kinds of civilians have been/are being paid ex-gratia relief of Rs. 1.00 lakh.

[English]

Commercialisation of the Surplus Railway Land

*272. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE : SHRI A.C. JOS :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government had taken steps to commercialise surplus land of the Railway:

(b) if so, the total surplus land with the Railway in every State: and

(c) the steps taken to expedite the commercialisation process especially in Rajasthan?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) There is no suplus land with the Railways. The vacant Railway land is required by the Railway for its own development. expansion and for construction of Offices and Quarters for Railway Employees.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

[Translation]

Social Forestry Projects

*273. SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR :

SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received proposals from some State Governments seeking World Bank assistance for the social forestry projects during the last three years.

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the assistance sought in each case:

(c) the details of the projects have been approved/ rejected by the World Bank: and <

(d) the time by which the remaining projecs are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) to (d). Comprehensive forestry projects received from State Governments of Andhra