

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO) : (a) A Low Power TV Transmitter is envisaged to be set up at Calicut to relay Metro Channel (DD-2) programmes subject to availability of adequate resources for the purpose and *inter-se* priorities.

(b) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Defreezing of Bank Accounts of V.H.P.

2394. SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bank accounts of Vishwa Hindu Parishad have been made operational and its premise opened after the announcement of lifting of ban imposed thereon;

(b) if so, since when;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government have imposed ban on aid being given by Non Resident Indians to Vanvasi Kalyan Ashram being run by VHP and associated institutions; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P.M. SAYEED) : (a) to (c). In pursuance to the order dated 20.6.95 of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Tribunal cancelling the Central Government's Notification dated 14.1.95 declaring Vishwa Hindu Parishad (VHP) as an unlawful association, the Central Government immediately advised the State Governments that VHP became lawful association.

As powers under sections 7 & 8 of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967 have been delegated by the Central Government to the State Governments consequent action for defreezing of bank accounts and opening of premises of VHP rests with the State Governments.

(d) and (e). The Central Government has not imposed any ban on receipt of foreign contribution by Vanvasi Kalyan Ashram, Bombay (Headquarters presently shifted to Nasik).

[*English*]

Phone Tapping in Bombay

2395. SHRIMATI SUSEELA GOPALAN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "Airline staff alleges phone tapping" appearing in the 'Times of India', Bombay dated June 9, 1995;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government to stop recurrence of such phone tapping?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) to (c). Sir, The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Corruption and Malpractices

2396. SHRI KAMLA MISHRA MADHUKAR : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received complaints regarding corruption and malpractices prevailing in the headquarter of Central Water Commission;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken against the officers found guilty?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Since 1.1.1994, 8 complaints against 13 officials of the Central Water Commission (Headquarters) have been received. Out of these, 4 complaints against 7 officials have been closed after investigation/examination as no officer has been found guilty. In addition, one complaint has been received which is of general nature, not against any specific officer.

National Dress

2397. MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that a number of institutions, clubs, messes etc. do not permit people wearing National Dress or kurta/pyjama/dhoti, chappals etc. to enter these places;

(b) if so, whether the Government agree with the concept that such dresses, which can be worn in Parliament or in Rashtrapati Bhavan, are not good enough for these clubs;

(c) if not, the reasons why the Government have not taken any action to rectify the situation; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to eliminate this distortion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P.M. SAYEED) : (a) to (d). Instructions in the nature of recommendations have been issued by Government for regulating the dress to be worn by civilian officers (men and women) in office, on formal and ceremonial occasions, on less formal occasions and evening parties. The people who frequent private institutions, clubs, messes, etc. will naturally have to abide by the rules of those places. It is not feasible for Government to regulate the dress to be worn in such places. Government can, however, take action if the dress worn in any public place is obscene and causes annoyance to others.