

In 855 cases, OSBs did not advise the merit panel to the concerned oil companies within 24 hours of the interviews.

Mechanisation of Postal Delivery System

2730. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry has mooted any proposal for launching mechanisation of the postal delivery system in the country for expeditious delivery of mail;

(b) if so, whether on a trial basis mopeds have been given to postmen in October, 1995 in some areas in the national capital for covering long distances in short time;

(c) if so, the details and the results thereof;

(d) whether the mechanised postal delivery system is likely to be extended to other areas in Delhi and also to other metropolitan and big cities in the country; and

(e) if so, the details thereof indicating the financial implications and the viability thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Scheme has been initially implemented in a limited way on experimental basis in Delhi, Bombay and Hyderabad for a period of one year.

(b) Yes, Sir. 10 mopeds have been given on trial basis to Postman in Delhi in October, 1995 where address sites are at a comparatively great distance from each other especially in newly developing residential areas.

(c) 5 Mopeds each have been supplied to Rohini and Patparganj Post Offices for use to by Postmen serving extensive and heavy beats.

(d) and (e). It is proposed to review the scheme after a period of time and extend it to other places depending upon the results of the review.

Infiltrators Intercepted on Borders

2731. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of infiltrators intercepted sector-wise, during the 1994-95 and till September, 1995;

(b) the number of infiltrators pushed back;

(c) the number of infiltrators handed over to the local authorities;

(d) whether it is a fact that many infiltrators cannot be intercepted; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to seal the international borders against infiltration?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SYED SIBTEY RAZI) : (a) to (e). Apart from very long land borders with neighbouring countries, India has an extensive coast - line as well. Various push and pull factors result in infiltration into the country, a serious and ongoing problem. The measures taken to check it include raising of additional battalions under expansion plan of Border Security Force, reducing gaps between the Border Outposts, intensification of patrolling, raising of the riverine water wing of BSF, accelerated programme of construction of border roads and fencing on Indo-Pakistan and Indo-Bangladesh border, flood-lighting in the sensitive stretches of the Indo-Pak border, increase in the number of OP Towers, provision of surveillance equipments and night vision devices, intensive surveillance by Naval vessels on the high seas, joint Coast Guard-Navy surveillance in the territorial waters and patrolling by joint detachments of Navy Coast Guard, Customs and State Police through trawlers in the shallow waters along the shore, etc. Additionally, there are schemes such as Prevention of Infiltration of Foreigners (PIF) and Mobile Task Force (MTF) Schemes which are implemented by identified States to detect infiltrators. Standing instructions have been issued to the BSF, the State Governments and the UT Administrations for detection and deportation of infiltrators. Detection and deportation is an on-going process. It is, however, true that in view of the borders being long and, at many places, riverine mountainous as well as porous in many sectors, many infiltrators could not be detected/sent back despite the various measures taken.

Ground Water Resources

2732. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the efforts made by the Government in collaboration with the cooperative sector the development and management of ground water resources;

(b) the areas where such efforts have been implemented on trial/experimental basis in the country; and

(c) the achievements made so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) : (a) to (c). No efforts have so far been made by the Government for development and management of ground water resources in collaboration with the cooperative sector. Recently the Central Ground Water Board had organised a National Workshop on the Emerging Role of Cooperatives in Development and Management of Ground Water. The recommendations adopted in the Workshop have been circulated to the State Governments etc. for necessary action.