

(c) the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL): (a) to (c). This matter was discussed during my visit to Bangladesh from 16-18, February, 1990. The Bangladesh Foreign Minister referred to the decision of the Bangladesh Government of 18th July, 1989 that in future no property would be taken possession of as vested property and that all properties vested after June, 1984 would be returned to the owners. Although this decision will affect only a small percentage of the properties vested, as the majority of these were vested before June, 1984, Government welcomes it as a step in the right direction. Our High Commission in Dhaka maintains regular touch with the Bangladesh Government on this issue.

[English]

Enquiry into St. Kitts Documents

1784. SHRI MANDHATA SINGH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have enquired into the alleged conspiracy to forge St. Kitts documents;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof;

(c) the persons found to be involved in this matter; and

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

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL): (a) to (d). The matter is under verification.

[Translation]

Famine and Drinking Water Crisis in Rajasthan

1785. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a study group was sent by Union Government to Rajasthan to take stock of the famine situation and drinking water crisis in the State during the ensuing summer;

(b) whether the study group has submitted its report;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether Government have considered the suggestions made by the study group; and

(e) if so, the action contemplated by Government thereon?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) to (e). Government of Rajasthan submitted a memorandum in January, 1990 seeking central assistance for drought relief including augmentation of drinking water supplies in some parts of the State affected by drought caused by inadequate rains during South-West monsoon of 1989. A Central Team visited the State from 19th to 22nd January, 1990 for making an assessment of the situation. Based on the report of Central Team and recommendations of High Level Committee of Relief thereon, a ceiling of expenditure of Rs. 16.77 crore including Rs. 5.57 crore for drinking water supplies has been approved to the State Government.