

The Government is taking all necessary steps to combat and frustrate the designs of ISI by sensitising and gearing up the intelligence machinery, sharing of intelligence and coordinated action by the concerned Central and State agencies, and strengthening of vigil and security arrangements on the borders to check infiltration.

**Prasar Bharati Act**

725. SHRI SUDARSHAN RAYCHAUDHURI :

SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA :

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA :

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA :

SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHARY :

SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD :

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE :

SHRI RAM KAPSE :

SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 3223 on August 24, 1995 and state :

(a) whether the Government have since finalised the amendments proposed to be made to certain sections of Prasar Bharati (Broadcasting Corporation of India) Act, 1990;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which the Act is proposed to be brought into force; and

(d) if not, the reasons for delay in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI P.M. SAYEED) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d). Certain changes, inter-alia, in the proposed organisational structure of the Corporation are warranted in the light of the rapidly changing broadcasting scenario because of increased international satellite broadcasting in this part of the world. The details in this regard are being finalised. No specific time frame can be indicated at present.

**Vohra Committee Report**

726. SHRI RABI RAY :

SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA :

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA :

SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO :

SHRI CHITTA BASU :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state the details of the follow up action taken by the Government in the wake of the recommendations of the Vohra Committee report ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SYED SIBTEY RAZI) : The Vohra Committee Report had recommended setting up of a Nodal Agency at the level of Home Secretary. The Government has accordingly set up a Nodal Agency on 2nd August, 1995 with the Home Secretary as the Chairman and Secretary (Revenue), Director IB, Director, CBI and Secretary, RAW as Members. The task of the Nodal Agency is mainly that of coordination, direction and supervision. It is not a substitute for the concerned Central and State Agencies which are responsible for collection of intelligence or for investigation and prosecution under the Constitution and the Laws. The Nodal Agency has started functioning and has held two meetings since it was set up. The Nodal Agency in its meetings generally reviews the information available with the different agencies, relating to the activities of major crime syndicates and the course of action to be taken by the field formations. The question of inter-agency coordination and inter-agency support in the pursuit of cases as per law is considered and appropriate decisions taken with regard to requirements of such support and cooperation.

[Translation]

**MPs Local Area Development Scheme**

727. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHOUDHARY :

SHRI KUNJEE LAL :

Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether a Member of Parliament can give suggestion about a specified Government agency for implementation of MPs Local Area Development Scheme;

(b) if so, the extent to which the Collector is proposed to be made responsible for accepting the suggestion of the Member of Parliament;

(c) the criteria for fixing responsibility in case of change of the agency by the Collector despite any suggestion given by the Member of Parliament regarding non-completion and sub-standard work done by the concerned agency; and

(d) the action proposed to be taken by the Government on the complaint of the Member of Parliament regarding unsatisfactory work ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAVA) : (a) and (b). The guidelines laid down under the Scheme stipulate that the Member of Parliament shall recommend the works to be executed by the concerned District Collectors. The concerned District

Collectors will finally select the implementing agencies for the various works recommended by the M.P. in case these are found to be technically feasible and also fall within the scope of the guidelines, after making an overall assessment of all relevant factors.

(c) and (d). The District Collector is responsible for coordination and overall supervision of the works under the scheme at the district level. The implementing agencies are also accountable for the successful implementation of the works. If there is any complaint of sub-standard works or non-completion of works in respect of any implementing agency, the Collector may change the implementing agency after due verification. Whenever a specific complaint in this regard is received, the matter is taken up with concerned Collector/State Government for necessary action.

### Irrigation Projects

- 728. SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR :

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI :

SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned 'State Government resolve to put new irrigation projects on hold' appearing in the "Business Standard" dated August 28, 1995.

(b) if so, the facts and details thereof; and

(c) the point of view of the Government thereto ?

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

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In the 11th Conference of Water Resources & Irrigation Ministers of States/UTs held at New Delhi, on 22nd August, 1995 it was recommended that new projects should not be encouraged till the on-going projects were completed and abundant caution should be exercised in selecting new projects which may be taken up in exceptional cases for implementation, necessitated due to reasons of balance development, etc.

(c) The Ministry of Water Resources concurs with the above recommendation.

[English]

### Security Coverage to VIPs

729. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAIISI :

SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government are considering various proposals to improve the security of all the Chief Ministers of the States in the country;

(b) if so, whether any review of security arrangements to the VIPs have been made; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the time by which these are likely to be implemented ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SYED SIBTEY RAZI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise. However, security of protected persons residing in Delhi is reviewed periodically. This is a continuing exercise.

[Translation]

### Speed Post Corporation

730. SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM :

SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up 'Speed Post Corporation;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether service rates for 'Speed Post' are beyond the means of the common people;

(e) whether it is a fact that the emphasis on speed post is affecting the efficiency of general dak distribution; and

(f) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to maintain the efficiency of regular dak distribution ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) There is no such proposal at present.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

(c) The operational and the financial viability of forming a separate Speed Post Corporation needs to be studied in great detail before arriving at any decision.

(d) The tariff of Speed Post is comparably lower than the tariff charged by the private sector courier operators and this is proposed to be maintained for the present.

(e) and (f). Speed Post is considered as priority mail and is given a separate treatment from the rest of the mail. The norms of delivery for both categories of mails are different and they do not affect the efficiency of each other. It is the endeavour of the Government to constantly monitor the equality of general mail service and improve them within the various constraints like unpunctuality of various forms of transport used by the Department of Post like buses, trains, aeroplanes, the lack of space in the mail carrying vehicles, frequent occasions of refusal to carry mail by the operators, traffic congestion in the cities and other industrial relations problems.