

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of persons arrested in this regard; and

(d) the measures taken to prevent the recurrence of such cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (d). 'Police' and 'Public Order' being State subjects as per Constitutional provisions the registration investigation, detection and prevention of crime, including the cases relating to fake caste certificates, is primarily the concern of the State Governments. Information relating to action taken by the State Governments in individual cases of crime of this nature is not maintained by the Central Government.

Maintaining Communal Harmony

3182. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to make police officers directly responsible for maintaining communal harmony and containing of crimes; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b). According to the Constitution of India, 'Police' and 'Public order' are State subjects. It is primarily for the State Governments to assign, where necessary, specific responsibilities to their police officers. However, the Central Government has also issued guidelines to the State Governments for promoting communal harmony and containing crime. These guidelines cover, inter alia, the role of district level functionaries.

Development of Horticulture

3183. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether National Horticulture Development Board and Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority is funding different States for long term development of Horticulture;

(b) if so, the amount allotted during each of the last three years to the State Governments, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government of Kerala has requested for enhancement of the funds; and

(d) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The two agencies do not make advance allotment of funds to the States. Instead the assistance is released direct to the beneficiaries on project to project basis under different schemes for long-term development activities including exports.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Supply of Rakes

3184. SHRI KASHI RAM RANA :
SHRI SAMIK LAHIRI :
SHRI MAHESH KUMAR M. KANODIA :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the efforts made to meet the demand of rakes in the country;

(b) the efforts made by the Government to increase the supply of rakes for the salt producing areas of Gujarat; and

(c) the number of applications received in this connection during the last year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Availability of railway wagons/rakes for movement of freight traffic has been increased significantly through improved productivity of available wagon and locomotive resources by intensive monitoring of train movements and terminal operations.

(b) and (c). As a result of the steps taken, loading of salt has also improved significantly in Gujarat. During January-July, 1996 there has been an increase of about 10% as compared to the same period of last year and the number of representations have also come down.

[English]

Post of Finance Secretary in Chandigarh

3185. SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) since how long the post of Finance Secretary is lying vacant in the Union Territory of Chandigarh;

(b) the reasons for the delay in filling up the post; and

(c) the time by this post is likely to be filled in the near future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (c). The post of Finance Secretary under the Chandigarh Administration has been lying vacant for the last eight months. The matter was taken up with the concerned Department in early March, 1996. The post is likely to be filled up shortly.