

DIA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the 'Mad race in the lottery market' included in by the various State Governments and public institutions, offering multi-million bumper prizes ;

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government in this regard ;

(c) whether Government propose to enforce a comprehensive regulation on the massive movement of money by these prizes ; and

(d) if so, the steps taken so far to make a study on impact of this massive movement of money on the economy of the country and with what result so far ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR) :

(a) to (c) The Central Government is aware of the competition between various State lotteries and the trend towards increasing the prize money on lotteries. The State Governments, Union Territory Administrations and any other public institution authorised to organise lotteries are at liberty to fix prize amounts in their discretion. There is presently no proposal under the consideration of the Government to fix any ceilings on prizes for the lotteries.

(d) Question does not arise.

Anti-Insurgency Operations in Manipur

2504. SHRI B. V. DESAI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the army has been given full powers to conduct anti-insurgency operations in Manipur, India's North-Eastern State bordering Burma ;

(b) if so, whether the army security forces in the State were keeping a

sharp look-out for the return of about 90 members of the outlawed Peoples Liberation Army from Burma ;

(c) if so, whether it is also a fact that there are among them an estimated 160 PLA extremists in the State ;

(d) whether the return of these extremists from Burma has created a great uneasy situation ; and

(e) to what extent the army has cleared the air and how long army will stay there ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR) :

(a) The Army is operating in Manipur within the purview of the Armed forces (Special Powers) Act, 1958.

(b) and (c) There are reports about some PLA extremists being trained by insurgent groups across the border. Strict vigil is being maintained on the border to prevent any ingress or egress.

(d) and (e) The Security forces operations have succeeded in making a significant dent in the mischief potential of the extremists. Since 1st January, 1983, 91 insurgents have been arrested and 13 have surrendered in Manipur. Sizeable number of arms and ammunition have also been recovered by security forces and State Police during this period. There is a marked improvement in the law and order situation in the State. These operations of the Security Forces will continue till the situation warrants.

Future Industrial Growth

2505. SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA : Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that industrial growth in future will be shaped by public sector investments and investment priorities, through financial institutions ; (Yojana dated 16-30 September, 1983) ; and

(b) if so, full details of Government strategy as worked out by the Planning Commission ?