

are not sufficient enough. Sir, at that time two decisions were taken - the communications to be supplied or to be held by the Central Government and the manpower of forces be given by the State Government. This decision was taken in consultation with the U.P. Government especially so that this border could be further checked up and the modernisation of arms, specially for that particular group of the people who would be helping in manning the border, was also agreed by Central Government that they would help them out. With this, there was a lot of improvement initially. I had personally gone to the borders. This war being implemented during that time. Your special Secretary, Shri Mathur was the D.G. in these days. Now he is a Special Secretary here.

May I know from the hon. Minister whether the coordination, which was earlier functioning, is being followed? If it is followed, is it fruitful or is it producing any results? Secondly, as it has been noticed by the hon. Minister himself, that the ISI activities on the Nepalside were increasing, we had taken it up with the Nepal government at that time. What is the progress from that side now because this matter was taken up nearly a year back. It is not that the note has gone to the Government of Nepal from the Ministry of External Affairs now. What is the real answer from the Nepal Government? I would like to know whether they put up any checkpost on that side because it is known all over the border States that the Nepal border is the easiest accessible border for narcotics and other things.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Pilot, your two minutes are over.

*(Interruptions)**

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Sir, the former Minister for Internal Security is quite right when he say that the Nepal-U.P. border is extremely porous and because of the danger that is realised from that quarter, certain decisions have been taken which mainly were of coordination between the Centre and the Nepal Government. I have already mentioned that including the visit of a high level delegation from here, for this purpose, some other regular contacts and intelligence agencies of the two Government are also going on. It is a regular process and it is going on. If you asked me to quantify in some way to what extent the Nepal Government has been able to check ISI activities, I think it is a very difficult question to answer.

I personally do not think that there has been any very marked improvement. You can see that the activities of these terrorists are still going on quite reportedly, markedly. You see, what happened yesterday in Ambala. Nobody was expecting this. We should have expected it, I suppose. Things like this create a great deal of panic among the people and if the intelligence agencies have been at fault, the matter will have to be investigated and they will have to be pulled up. The cause of the explosion is also to be pulled up. Nowadays, they are

using all kinds of material and methods, including RDX and so on. This is also being smuggled into India through Nepal. There is no doubt about it. The situation is quite serious. I should say. If it is the seriousness of the situation which the hon. Member, Shri Pilot wanted to emphasise, well, I agree hundred per cent with him. I shall be happy if he from his past experience can give us some specific suggestions as to how to improve this coordination with our neighbouring countries.

We are doing it with Bangladesh. There is a lot of smuggling off Bangladesh border also. The new Government which has come in Bangladesh now has assured us that they would do everything possible to see that the soil of Bangladesh is not used for these anti-Indian activities and they will not be provided any kind of sanctuary or camp or anything there.

MR. SPEAKER : I think, it is enough. Shri Pilot is fully satisfied. I can see his face.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : This the last question and only one minute is left.

[Translation]

SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, there are 25 police stations along the Bihar-Nepal border. Central Funds are being provided for the modernisation of these police stations, but only 5 Police station have vehicles and communication facilities. Is the Government considering for providing fast running vehicles and telecommunication facilities to the remaining police stations. The Government of Bihar has neither sent nor is likely to send any scheme for checking terrorist activities at the border. Under the circumstances, I would like know the action being taken by the Central Government in this regard.

MR. SPEAKER : Only half a minute is left. If you want a reply, please resume your seat forthwith.

[English]

Mr. Minister, you have only half a minute to reply.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Yes Sir. We are dealing with this question and are considering how best we can improve this communication system which is very vital.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Ganga Action Plan

*165. SHRI D.P. YADAV : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the allocation made under the National River Conservation Plan for the Ganga Action Plan is not being fully utilized and the money is being surrendered;

(b) if so, the reasons for under-utilization of the said fund; and

(c) the steps taken to expedite implementation of the Ganga Action Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) to (c). Under the Ganga Action Plan Phase-I, utilization of funds, has largely been as per the budget estimates. There was some shortfall in utilization of funds during 1994-95 and 1995-96 because of delay in land acquisition and contractual problems. These impediments have since been overcome.

[English]

Wildlife Conservation

*166. SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN :
SHRI CHHATRAPAL SINGH :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have seen report by the Environmental Investigative Agency, a UK based NGO, about the dismal performance and serious crisis in the India's wild life conservation efforts particularly, the Project Tiger and Project Elephant; and

(b) if so, reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The report is a critique on India's Wildlife Conservation efforts, with special reference to Project Tiger. No specific mention has been made about Project Elephant. The various issues raised in the report are pertinent but some of them have been highly exaggerated and not based on facts. The report, however, has not dealt adequately with international market forces which is the root cause of decline of tiger population all over the world including India and how to overcome such forces outside India. The report also completely ignores the positive aspects and achievements of the Wildlife Conservation effort over the years in the country. The shortcomings highlighted in the report are already receiving attention of Government.

[Translation]

Krishi Vigyan Kendras in Bihar

*167. SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR SINGH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any proposal to set up Krishi Vigyan Kendras in several districts of Bihar is under consideration of the Government;

(b) if so, the names of districts where Krishi Vigyan Kendras are proposed to be set up;

(c) whether locations for the same have been identified;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the funds proposed to be provided to the State Government for the purpose?

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

(b) The following districts in Bihar are under consideration alongwith other districts in the country.

1. Araria
2. Aurangabad
3. Bhagalpur
4. East Champaran
5. Santhal Pargana (Dumka)
6. Kishanganj
7. Lohardaga
8. Palamau
9. Purnea
10. Vaishali
11. Muzaffarpur
12. East Singhbhoomi
13. Rohtas
14. Daltanganj

(c) and (d). The locations of the centre are identified when the additional funds are allocated to the Council by the Planning Commission.

(e) The funds are released directly to the host Institution identified for implementing the Krishi Vigyan Kendra.

[English]

Involvement of Foreign Intelligence Agencies with Extremists

*168. SHRI UDDHAB BARMAN :
SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the involvement of ISI, CIA and other foreign intelligence agencies with the extremists of the North-Eastern States; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to check foreign intelligence agencies?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA) : (a) The Government are aware of the involvement of Inter Service Intelligence (ISI) of Pakistan and Directorate General of Field Intelligence (DGFI) of Bangladesh with extremists of the North-