

New Security Force

3040. SHRI K. PARYMOHAN:
SHRI MADHAV RAO PATIL:
SHRI ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL:
SHRI K.P. MUNUSAMY:
SHRI SURESH WARPUDKAR:

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

(a) whether the Government are considering to raise a new security force to minimise dependence on the Army in dealing with internal security problems;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the steps taken by the Government to modernise the police forces;

(c) the extent to which it is likely to be helpful in dealing with the internal security problems; and

(d) the total number of police stations so far provided with communication system called 'Polnet'?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) 'Police' is a State subject being Entry 2 of List II of the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India. The modernisation of the police is, therefore the responsibility of the State Government. However, Central Government has been providing assistance for procuring vehicles, purchase of equipment aids for investigation etc.

In order to modernise the police Telecommunication, the Government has approved setting up of the POLNET project to connect all the District Headquarters and the State Capitals with New Delhi.

[Translation]

Ban on Mustard Oil

3041. SHRIMATI REENA CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of brands of mustard oil which were banned by the Government during August, 1998 in some States; and

(b) the details of steps taken by the Government against the firms of those brand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYAPAL SINGH YADAV): (a) The following brands were banned by the concerned Government during August, 1998 in some states:—

Dhara, Kanodia, Kohinoor, Scooter, Hathi, Parivar, Jumbo and P-Brand.

(b) Legal action is taken against the offenders as per the provisions of the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act and Rules, 1955.

[English]

Storage Capacity in Kerala

3042. SHRI P. SANKARAN: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state;

(a) the storage capacity of foodgrains in the Food Corporation of India/State Warehousing Corporation in Kerala at the micro level;

(b) the losses of foodgrains at these storage centres in the State during each of the last three years;

(c) the methods adopted to minimise such losses; and

(d) the locations identified and funds allotted for additional storage centres for the Food Corporation of India, State Warehousing Corporation with capacity at each centre in Kerala?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYAPAL SINGH YADAV): (a) The storage capacity of foodgrains available with the Food Corporation of India (FCI) and Kerala State Warehousing Corporation (KSWC) in Kerala as on 1.1.99 is 5.30 lakh MT and 1.50 MT respectively.

(b) The losses of foodgrains at these storage centres in the State of Kerala as reported by FCI during the last three years are as under:—

Year	Rice (in MTs)	Storage Losses (Percentage)
1994-95	1633	0.14%
1995-96	2576	0.21%
1996-97	986	0.06%

However, no loss in foodgrains stock has been reported by KSWC.

(c) To minimise storage losses the FCI has adopted various measures such as enforcement of strict quality specifications at the time of procurement, adoption of 50 kg. packing in a phased manner, installation of weighbridges, encouraging machine stitching of bags, tightening of security at depots, intensifying surprise checks, induction of CISF at vulnerable depots to curb theft and pilferage ensuring strict preservation measures etc.

(d) The locations identified and funds allotted for construction of additional storage centres capacity-wise, by FCI/KSWC during the year 1998-99 are as under:—

Agency	Centre identified	Capacity Funds	
		(in MTs)	Allotted (in lakhs)
FCI	Meenangudi	5,000	40.00
	Arakulam	5,000	90.00
KSWC	Attingal	2,400	68.50
	Karunagapally	2,700	46.00

Prostitution

3043. SHRI MADHUKAR SIRPOTDAR:
SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:
SHRIMATI RANEE NARAH:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the tendency of prostitution and sale/purchase of women has been increasing in the country particularly in Kashmir;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the number of such cases reported in various States about the prostitution and sale/purchase of women during each of the last three years, State/Union Territory-wise;

(d) the number of persons arrested in this regard, State/Union Territory-wise;

(e) the measures taken/being taken by the Government to check the same;

(f) whether the Government are contemplating to bring a stringent law to check such social evils; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) to (g) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Maharashtra Organised Crime Control Act

3044. SHRI D.S. AHIRE:
SHRI ABHAYSINH S. BHONSLE:
SHRI MADAN PATIL:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any proposal from Maharashtra regarding Maharashtra Organised Crime Control Act for approval;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) and (b) The Government of Maharashtra referred the Maharashtra Control of Organised Crime Ordinance, 1999 in January, 1999 for instructions of the President under article 213(1) of the Constitution. The Ordinance seeks to curb organised crimes like contract killings, extortion, smuggling in contrabands including narcotics, kidnapping for ransom, collection of protection money etc. It empowers a competent authority to authorise or approve interception of wire, electronic or oral communication to a police officer not below a rank of