

(c) At Central level, there is a Chief Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities for monitoring the utilisation of funds disbursed by the Central Government. Besides this, there is a Central Co-ordination Committee, headed by Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment, and a Central Executive Committee, headed Secretary, M/o Social Justice & Empowerment. Similarly, at State level, there is a Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities, a State Co-ordination Committee and a State Executive Committee, who coordinate with the departments of the State Government for the programme and schemes for the benefit of persons with disabilities and monitor the utilisation of funds disbursed by the State Government. Several State Governments have taken some steps towards implementation of the provisions of the Act. The State Government have been implementing various schemes/programmes for the disabled, in state sector. Besides this, the M/o Social Justice & Empowerment also implements some schemes for the disabled, mainly through the NGOs. The funds are sanctioned for proposals meeting eligibility requirement and there is no specific State-wise allocation.

(d) The Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment have taken the matter with the State Governments and U.T. Administrations, at high levels for effective implementation of the Act. In fact, the Prime Minister has also written to the Chief Ministers stressing the need to effectively implement the provisions of the Act. The monitoring of the progress of the implementation of the Act of the State Governments would be continued by the Central Government. The Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment also obtains quarterly progress from the States/UTs, regarding implementation of the Act.

Terrorism in North Eastern States

3091. SHRI C.P. RADHAKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Narco-Terrorism activities are increasing in North-Eastern States;

(b) the number of organisations directly or indirectly involved behind this activity, and

(c) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) to (c) Intelligence reports suggest that there are links between narcotic smuggling and insurgent movements in the North-East. The main drug route from Myanmar to India is through Moreh into Imphal and from thereon through NH-39. Intelligence reports also indicate the involvement of the NSCN and ULFA in drug-trafficking and funding the purchase of weapons with drug money.

This is also corroborated by the widespread incidence of the problem of drug addiction in parts of the North-East, especially Manipur.

The organisations involved in these activities have been declared as "unlawful associations" under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967 and action taken against these organisations.

In addition, the following significant steps have been taken:—

- (i) Instructions have been issued to all the enforcement agencies to maintain the utmost vigil and step up enforcement efforts under the stringent provisions contained in NDFS Act.
- (ii) Training is being imparted to officers to improve their effectiveness. Vehicles and communication equipments have been provided.
- (iii) BSF who are deployed on land and coastal borders have been vested with powers under the Customs Act to interdict narcotic drugs on the border in addition to the several Central and State Government enforcement agencies empowered under the NDFS Act.
- (iv) A comprehensive bilateral agreement has been entered into by the Government of India with the Government of the Union of Myanmar for reducing demand and preventing illicit trafficking in narcotic drugs.
- (v) The North Eastern States were provided assistance in setting up special courts to deal with drug cases.

Infiltration by Militants

3092. SHRIMATI RANEE NARAH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Assam has sent a report to the Centre on the infiltration of militants into Assam and other parts of North-Eastern States;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Union Government on the report?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) to (b) The Government of Assam has sent