

(b) to (e) The post of Presiding Officer, CGIT-cum-Labour Court, Bangalore fell vacant from 1.3.98. The selection of the Presiding Officer has been made and has been sent for the approval of the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet.

[Translation]

Ban on Drugs

5007. SHRI JAISINHJI CHAUHAN : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have imposed a ban on drugs;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of persons died due to drug abuse during each of the last three years; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to get rid of this menace?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) and (b) In terms of the provisions of the Narcotics Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985 the consumption of Narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances is prohibited.

(c) There is no information on reported deaths which can be attributed directly to drug abuse.

(d) The Ministry is implementing the scheme for Prohibition and Drug Abuse Prevention, which is a community based programme wherein grant-in-aid to the extent of 90 percent of the approved expenditure, as per norms under the scheme is released to the voluntary organisations for a series of activities such as preventive education and awareness programmes and maintenance of Deaddiction-cum-Rehabilitation Centres. At the end of the year 1997-98, the Ministry has been assisting 370 Centres all over the country. The Ministry also collaborates with the Department of Youth Affairs to generate awareness amongst youth through Nehru Yuva Kendras, NSS, Youth Clubs, etc.

[English]

Functioning of Swimming Pools

5008. SHRI MITRASEN YADAV :
SHRI MOHAN SINGH :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of swimming pools are functioning in the capital engaged in un-social activities unbecoming of a civilised life in the capital;

(b) if so, whether the Government have made any survey in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the action taken against the officials responsible for their negligence?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) Delhi Police has reported that no such complaint has been received by them.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Border Area Development Programme

5009. SHRI NRIPEN GOSWAMI :
SHRI CHANDRASHEKHAR SAHU :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the purpose and nature of Border Area Development Programme;

(b) the details of Border Area Development Programme likely to be implemented during Ninth Five Year Plan, State-wise and location-wise;

(c) the details of project implemented during Eighth Five Year Plan in North Eastern area; and

(d) the details of allocation made for implementing the projects in the said area during the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) Border Area Development Programme is a 100 per cent Centrally funded area programme. The main objective of the programme is the balanced development

of remote, inaccessible areas situated near the border, ensuring effective administration in these areas and involving the people in strengthening their resilience.

(b) and (c) Funds under this programme are allocated to the State. Further schematic and spatial allocations are decided by the State level Sorening Committees chaired by the Chief Secretary of the State. Hence date on schemes implemented and proposed during the 9th Five Year Plan are not available. Schemes implemented in the North East relate mainly to infrastructure development including education, health and transport facilities, administrative framework and security related items etc.

(d) State-wise allocation of funds for the current financial year has not yet been finalised.

Massacre in Doda

5010. SHRI M. RAJIAH :
 SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH :
 SHRI PANKAJ CHOUDHARY :
 SHRI SURENDRA PRASAD YADAV :
 (JAHANABAD) :
 SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY :
 SHRI K.S. RAO :
 SHRI ADITYANATH :
 SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA :
 SHRI NARESH PUGLIA :
 SHRI AJAY KUMAR S. SARNAIK :
 DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY :
 SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VARMA :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some persons of a marriage party have recently been killed by terrorists in a village of Doda in J & K;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the compensation paid to the families of victims;

(c) whether intelligence agency had warned the Government in advance about the possibility of such attacks;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether any terrorist group has claimed the responsibility of this massacre;

(f) if so, the names thereof along with the number of terrorists arrested/identified in this regard;

(g) whether the Government propose to formulate any scheme to check terrorist incidents in the valley;

(h) if so, the details thereof; and

(i) the time by which this scheme is likely to be finalised?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

On June 19, 1998, while the members of two Barat (marriage) parties were waiting for a bus to carry them to Prem Nagar (Doda district), 5 armed militants came in a hijacked Maruti van at Champnari (8 kms. away from Prem Nagar) asked the members of a particular community to line up and opened fire on them killing 25 persons and injuring 7 others.

As regards ex-gratia to the next of kin of those killed or injured in such incidents, it is paid by the State Government, as per the standard norms/policy of the State Government.

(c) and (d) Intelligence inputs regarding militant plans are shared by the Intelligence Agencies with the security forces from time to time.

(e) and (f) While the group responsible for the incident has been identified and an alert has been sounded, no arrest has however been made so far.

(g) to (i) With a view of tackle the militancy problem sponsored from across the border in Jammu and Kashmir, the Government have adopted a multi-pronged approach which include inter-alia strengthening the border management, neutralising plans of militants by proactive action against them in hinterland, gearing up intelligence machinery, galvanising development programmes and depending the democratic process etc. The security forces have already been asked to tighten the anti-militancy measures etc.

General Institute of Plastics Engineering and Technology

5011. SHRI ARJUN SETHI : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Central Institute of Plastics Engineering and Technology are in operation in various parts of the country;