

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:260
ANSWERED ON:21.11.2000
ISI ACTIVITIES
ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY;SHYAMA SINGH

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government are aware that the Pakistan's ISI agents in Nepal have chosen Bihar as the safe place for their activities and entering into the country as reported in the `Pioneer` dated 02 October, 2000.
- (b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) whether the Government have taken any steps to tighten its security forces at borders near Nepal; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (I. D. SWAMI)

(a)to(d): Government are aware of the reports of ISI agents operating in Bihar and are keeping a close watch on the situation. To neutralise activities of ISI agents, Government have adopted a well considered and multi-pronged approach which includes strengthening the border management, gearing up of intelligence machinery, well considered intelligence based action against ISI agents, setting up of security forces and modernisation and upgradation of police and security forces with sophisticated weapons and communication system etc.

Measures have been taken to enhance cooperation with Nepal, particularly with regard to implementing effective border management. The concerned agencies of the two Governments remain in regular touch. There are also bilateral institutional mechanisms, such as the Joint Working Group on Border Management and Home Secretary level talks, which have been evolved to specifically develop cooperation on security matters and to address these concerns. In pursuance of the decisions taken in these meetings, both sides have agreed to take well-coordinated measures, including stepping up vigil along the contiguous border districts of India & Nepal to prevent misuse of the open border and to counter activities directed against India. As a result of this co-operation between the two countries, many terrorist conspiracies sponsored by Pakistan have been neutralised.