(a) whether the shortage of fertilizers for Andhra Pradesh has been brought to the notice of the Government recently;

(b) if so, action taken to release more tonnes of urea to the State for the second crop;

(c) whether the State Government of Andhra Pradesh has urged the Union Government for giving permission to the Nagarjuna Fertilisers to release 10,000 tonnes of urea to the Coromondel Fertilizers in the state;

(d) whether the State Government has urged the centre that the state was facing acute shortage of fertilisers and needed 50,000 tones of fertiliser for the second crop during January, 1997;

(e) if so, the total shortage of Urea calculated in the state of Andhra Pradesh; and

(f) the extent the Government have instructed to the concerned authorities for releasing more urea for the state of Andhra Pradesh ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA) : (a) to (f) Urea is the only fertilizer under price, movement and distribution controls. No shortage of urea has been reported by the State so far during Rabi, 1996-97. The availability of urea against ECA allocation and sales (upto 31.1.1997) has been as under :-

(figures in lakh tonnes)
(upto 31.1.97)

Rabi '96-97		
ECA allocation	Availability	Sales
11.20	8.90	6.91

The availability was adequate to support the sales.

A request for release of 10,000 MTs of urea in favour of M/s Coromondel Fetilizers Ltd. was received from Ministry of Commerce. The offer for release of stock from M/s Nagarjuna Fertilizers & Chemicals Ltd., however, has not been accepted by M/s Coromondel Fertilizers Ltd.

[Translation]

Bodyguards to Public Representatives

487. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of bodyguards provided to the public representatives and other Government officials in Uttar Pradesh till date;

(b) whether some of them are provided more than one bodyguards provided in addition to one; and

(c) if so, the number thereof and the reasons therefore;

(d) whether Government are considering to withdraw the bodyguards provided in addition to one; and

(e) if so, the time by which it is likely to be done?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (e) 'Public Order' and 'Police' are State subjects under Constitution of India. Therefore, the responsibility for providing security to the persons residing within their jurisdiction is that of the concerned State/UT. Since this question relates to the security of persons in U.P., no such information is available with MHA or maintained.

[English]

Central Contribution for Marine Fishermen

488. SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the contribution from the Union Government towards the saving-cum-Relief-Scheme for marine fishermen has been discontinued;

(b) if so, the reason thereof;

(c) whether the Government would review the decision and revoke the contribution towards the scheme retrospectively;

(d) whether the Government would consider to extend and benefit of scheme to the inland fishermen and fisherwomen also; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise in view of reply at (a).

(d) and (e) The saving-cum-Relief component of the National Welfare of Fishermen Scheme, which was introduced in 1991-92, is, at present, applicable only to marine fishermen. Modifications can be considered only when the proposals for the IXth five year plan are formulated.

Committee on Freedom Fighters

489. SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VERMA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Prime Minister has announced in October'96 to set up-a Committee to go into the difficulties being faced by the freedom fighters in the country;

(b) whether the committee has since been constituted;

(c) if so, the details of the members of the committee alongwith its terms of reference; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?