GOVERNMENT OF INDIA HOME AFFAIRS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3198 ANSWERED ON:15.04.2008 EXAMINATION OF PROTOCOLS TO THE GENEVA CONVENTIONS,1949 Patel Shri Kishanbhai Vestabhai;Sai Shri Nand Kumar;Singh Shri Sugrib

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has requested the Union Government to examine the 1977 Protocols to the Geneva Conventions of 1949;

(b) if so, the details and the present status thereof; and

(c) the time by when the Government is likely to submit its comments to the NHRC in this matter?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS(SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL)

(a) to (c): Yes, Sir. Ministry of External Affairs in the Government of India continues to examine the 1977 Protocols to the Geneva Conventions of 1949 in consultation with other relevant Government of India agencies to thoroughly examine the substantive issues related to the 1977 Additional Protocols. The National Human Rights Commission has also been in touch with the Government in this regard.

An in-depth analysis of several important issues is necessary in this regard. These include not only International Humanitarian Law but also Government of India's security concerns arising from cross-border terrorism and internal insurgency. Given the above background, it is not possible to indicate a definite time frame for the completion of the process of consultations within the Government on this issue.