GOVERNMENT OF INDIA HOME AFFAIRS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3060 ANSWERED ON:15.03.2011 CROWD MANAGEMENT Raghavan Shri M. K.

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has constituted any committee on crowd management;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the constitution and terms of reference thereof;
- (c) whether such committee has submitted its report to the Government;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereon;
- (e) whether the Government has also constituted a separate committee to identify non lethal weapons/gadgets, upgrading of existing technology considering the need to strengthen the counter terrorism capabilities and intelligence inputs;
- (f) if so, the details thereof;
- (g) whether such committee has submitted its report to the Government; and
- (h) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereon?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT)

(a) to (h): In pursuance of a decision taken in the Annual Conference of Directors General of Police/Inspectors General of Police of States/UTs and Heads of the Central Police Organisations held on 25-27 August, 2010 at New Delhi, a Task Force under the chairmanship of the Union Home Secretary was constituted to recommend the Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) to deal with public agitation with non-lethal measures. This Task Force includes members from the Ministry of Home Affairs Intelligence Bureau (IB), Central Para-Military Forces (CPMFs), Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPR&D), Defence Research Development Organisation (DRDO), State Governments as well as from the States Police.

In the first meeting of the Task Force held on 26.10.2010, two Sub-Groups were constituted. Sub-Group-I was headed by the Director General of Police, Jammu and Kashmir Police and tasked to prepare Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) to deal with public agitations with non-lethal measures. Sub-Group-II was headed by the Director General, Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) and tasked to identify various new non-lethal equipment and technology upgradation for existing non-lethal equipment. The SOPs are primarily built around the core position/objective to use minimum necessary force with minimum collateral damage in order to disperse an unlawful assembly.

The Sub-Groups have submitted their reports and the same have been sent to the all Directors General of Police/Inspectors General of Police of all States UTs including the Chiefs of all Central Police Organisations.