

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:432
ANSWERED ON:07.07.2009
MEGA CITY AND DESERT AREA POLICING
Maadam Shri Vikrambhai Arjanbhai

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government has not released the approved funds to Gujarat under the scheme for Modernisation of Police Forces (MPF);
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the components of Mega City Policing and Desert Area Policing have been merged for the purpose of grant under the MPF scheme;
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether the Government is considering the release of adequate funds separately for these components keeping in view the terrorism scenario in Gujarat;
- (f) if so, the details thereof; and
- (g) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS(SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMACHANDRAN)

(a) & (b): Government has received a Resolution passed on 20th February, 2005 by both the Houses of Maharashtra State Legislature recommending the establishment of a separate Development Board for Konkan region of the State. The Planning Commission, who were consulted in the matter in February, 2006, are of the view (May, 2006) that backwardness by itself is not a reason for constitutional amendment for establishing a separate Development Board for Konkan region as there are other instruments available to the Centre and State Governments to gear up their developmental machinery. The matter was referred back to Planning Commission in 2007 for re-examination in view of the persisting demand of Government of Maharashtra. However, they reiterated their earlier view. No definite time-frame can be specified in this regard.

(c) to (g) : Mega City Policing and Desert Area Policing are integral components of the Scheme for Modernization of State Police Forces. Funds for Mega City Policing and Desert Policing are provided within the overall allocations under the MPF Scheme. There is no separate scheme to fund Mega City Policing and Desert Area Policing.