

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1894
ANSWERED ON:17.12.2013
POLICE BRIEFING TO MEDIA
Owaisi Shri Asaduddin

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has finalised Fifteen point guidelines for the police to brief the media on the cases under investigations;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether some cases of briefing by the police to the media has hampered/ compromised the probe;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the other steps taken or being taken by the Government to ensure that police briefing the media do not hamper national security and compromised the personal details of the victims?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH)

(a) & (b): The Ministry of Home Affairs had issued an advisory, on Media Policy of Police to all States/ UTs on 01st April 2010 outlining the procedures to be followed while briefing the media. The aforesaid advisory contained fifteen point guidelines on steps to be taken for media briefing by Police. The advisory is available in the Ministry of Home Affairs website in http://mha.nic.in/national_adv.

(c) to (e): As per seventh schedule to the Constitution of India "Police" and "Public Order" are State subjects and, as such, the primary responsibility of prevention, detection, registration, investigation and prosecution of crime, lies with the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations.

However, the Union Government attaches highest importance to the matter of prevention and control of crime against citizens and through various advisories and schemes augments the efforts of the State Governments/UTs.

No data on media mishandling by Police is available with the Ministry of Home Affairs.