Government of Bangladesh is that there is no illegal Bangladesh immigrants in India, they have assured that measures will be taken to strengthen security at the border to prevent illegal border crossing.

- (d) No, Sir.
- (e) Does not arise.

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## Economic Package to Jammu and Kashmir

1969. SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government had announced an economic package during 1996-97 for Jammu and Kashmir which also included the provision for establishing of Agriculture University in Jammu;
- (b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to implement the package for Jammu and Kashmir;
- (c) whether there is delay in the setting up of Agriculture University in Jammu; and
  - (d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) to (d) The then Prime Minister had announced an economic package for Jammu & Kashmir in both Houses of Parliament in July/August, 1996. However, this package did not include the establishment of an Agriculture University at Jammu. Following up action is being taken for implementing the economic package announced by the Prime Minister.

Subsequently, in the context of the high-level team sent by the ICAR on a request made by the Government of J&K in August, 1996, the then Prime Minister stated at Jammu on 13-14th February, 1997 that in consultation with the State Government, a decision will be taken to start the Agriculture University at Jammu from the next year.

The question of fund support was discussed in a meeting held in the Planning Commission on 22.07.98 and it was decided that the Agriculture University be started in a phased manner by upgrading and strengthening the existing facilities with a financial support of Rs. 40 crores during the Ninth Five Year Plan. (Rs. 25 crores by the Centre through ICAR and Rs. 15 crores in the State Plan). The State Government is required to issue a notification and appoint the Vice-Chancellor.

## Guest House

1970. SHRI E. AHAMED: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government are aware that Guest House are being used as hideouts for terrorists;
  - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the number of cases registered and persons arrested so far: and
- (d) the action taken by the Government to stop such illegal activities?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) (a) and (b) Reports available indicate that lodges/hotels are being used by the militants in Jammu and Kashmir for taking shelter and organising meetings.

- (c) 772 militants have been arrested in Jammu and Kashmir from 1997 till 15.2.99 under substantive laws and cases registered against them.
- (d) Government have adopted a well coordinated and multipronged approach for tackling the situation which inter-alia includes strengthening the border management, neutralising plans of militants by proactive steps against them in the hinterland, as also setting up of outposts of security forces and constitutes Village Defence Committees, gearing up intelligence machinery, modernisation and upgradation of police and security forces with advanced/sophisticated weapons and communication system, training etc.

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## Metro Rail System in Cochin

1971. SHRI GEORGE EDEN: Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the State Government of Kerala has submitted any proposal in regard to Metro Railway Transport System; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the present status thereof?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI RAM JETHMALANI): (a) and (b) A proposal for Central assistance was received from the Government of Kerala in February, 1998 for carrying out

a feasibility study for a medium capacity MRTS system in Cochin. The proposal was examined in this Ministry and the State Government was advised to furnish more details with regard to the cost of the study. The State Government is yet to furnish the details in this regard.

Import of Sugar

2. SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY:
SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL:
SHRI BIKASH CHOWDHURY:
SHRI ANANT KUMAR HEGDE:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:
SHRI RAVI SITARAM NAIK.
SHRI MADAN PATIL:
SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK:
SHRI AJAY MUKHOPADHYAY:
SHRI MAHBOOB ZAHEDI:
SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the quantum of sugar imported during each of the last three years and the current year indicating the names of the countries rates and the foreign exchange spent thereon;
  - (b) the present stock of sugar in the country;
- (c) whether this stock is sufficient to meet the requirement of the country;
- (d) if so, the reasons for importing sugar from Pakistan;
- (e) the details of foreign countries which have dumped their sugar in India;
- (f) whether the world price of sugar have been falling the resulting for its rise in India;
- (g) if so, the steps taken by the Government to bring down the sugar prices in the country;
- (h) whether the import is likely to affect the domestic sugar industry:
- (i) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government to safeguard the interest of the sugar industry; and

(j) the time by which the recommendations of the Mahajan Committee are likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV): (a) A statement indicating the countrywise details of imports of sugar and its values for the last three years and the current year (upto Nov. 1998) in Rs. crores is given in Statement-I.

- (b) and (c) The sugar season (Oct. Sept.) 1997-98 ended with a closing stock of 53.7 lakh tonnes on 30.09.98. The Sugar season 1998-99 has commenced with effect from 1.10.1998 and with the production of sugar in the first five months of the current sugar season the stocks of sugar are provisionally estimated at 79.43 lakh tonnes as on 31.01.99. The production of sugar during 1998-99 sugar season (October-September) is provisionally estimated at 150 lakh tonnes and the closing stocks of sugar as on 30.09.99 is estimated at 58.9 lakh tonnes. As the internal consumption of sugar during 1998-99 sugar season is estimated at 144 lakh tonnes the availability of sugar during 1998-99 is considered adequate to meet the domestic requirement.
- (d) There has been no imports of sugar either from Pakistan or any other country on Government account either in the last financial year or during the current financial year. Private parties are importing sugar based on the best commercial judgments.
- (e) The Anti-Dumping Directorate initiates Antidumping investigation only on receipt of a documented Petition from the domestic industry wherein prima facie there must be evidence of dumping injury to the domestic industry and casual link established between dumping and injury. In case of sugar, no petition has been filed with the Anti-Dumping Directorate requesting for initiating action on sugar dumping.
- (f) and (g) World prices of sugar during January 1998 to February (upto 19.2.99) have been indicated in a Statement-II. The world prices though fluctuating on a month to month basis, have shown a declining trend. So far as the domestic prices of the sugar are concerned, a statement indicating the range of wholesale price of S-30 Grade of sugar in the 4 principal markets of the country, namely, Delhi, Mumbai, Calcutta and Chennai is indicated at Statement-III. The domestic prices, though