

Challans in 20 cases have been prepared and are under scrutiny with the Director of Prosecution. The remaining cases are pending investigation with the Cell.

Judgements in Dowry Death Cases

3345. SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry has made any study of the recent judgements in dowry death cases in which the accused escaped punishment on technical grounds;

(b) if not, whether he is aware that there are too many loopholes in the IPC to enable the accused to escape punishment;

(c) if so, what steps he is intending to take to make these prosecutions effective and deterrent; and

(d) if the answer to (a) is in the affirmative, the findings thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA) :

(a) The Government has gone through the judgement of the Delhi High Court dated 3rd November, 1983 acquitting the husband, brother-in-law and mother-in-law of Shrimati Sudha Goel, who had been sentenced to death by the Additional Sessions Judge, Delhi.

(b) There is no loophole in the Indian Penal Code which only defines offences and prescribes the punishment therefor. Sections 302 and 306 of the Indian Penal Code provide adequate penalties for the offences of murder and abetment of suicide. Section 498A of the Code also seeks to punish cruelty to a married woman by her husband or his relatives for not bringing dowry or for bringing inadequate dowry.

(c) The conviction of a person depends on whether the prosecution has been able to prove its charges against the accused beyond all reasonable doubt. When the prosecution

is not able to do so or when there is lack of evidence against the accused, the case against the accused would fail. The Evidence Act, 1872 has, however, been amended by the insertion of new section 113A, which provides that, where a married woman commits suicide within seven years from the date of her marriage and it is proved that she was subjected to cruelty within the meaning of Section 498A IPC by her husband or his relatives, the Court may presume that the husband or such relatives abetted the suicide of that woman.

(d) Delhi Administration's petition to Supreme Court for special leave to appeal against the judgement referred to in part (a) is still pending.

Wasteland Development Corporation of India

3346. SHRI S. G. GHOLAP: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to State :

(a) whether Waste Land Development Corporation of India has come into existence as proposed; and

(b) if so, the progress and plan for development ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BIR SEN) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Central Government have taken a decision to set up a National Wastelands Development Board.

(b) Details are being worked out.

Night Landing Facilities at Patna Airport

3347. SHRI LALITESHWAR SHAMI: SHRI VIJAY KUMAR YADAV :

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) when Patna Airport is proposed to be equipped with superior night landing facilities;

(b) when Patna is going to have an evening air service from Delhi;

(c) whether Government propose to connect Patna and Khajuraho from Bombay by air service; and

(d) the time by which Government propose to connect Dhanbad, Jamshedpur and Patna by Vayudoot service ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT) :

(a) The Patna airport is presently equipped with Medium Intensity Runway Lights and Abridged Visual Approach Slope Indicator System (AVASIS). In order to further improve and upgrade the existing system, the following facilities have been sanctioned. The likely dates by which these facilities are expected to be completed are given against each :

(i) Conversion of Medium Intensity Runway Lights into High Intensity.	30.9.85
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(ii) Conversion of AVASI into 3-Bar AVASI on runway 25 and installation of 3-Bar AVASI on runway 07.	31.8.85
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(iii) Improvement of the Apron flood lighting.	To be taken up in 1985-86.
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(b) At present there is no plan to start evening service between Delhi and Patna.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Vayudoot have plans to operate to Dhanbad and Patna from Calcutta during the year 1986-87.

International Airport at Hyderabad and Visakhapatnam

3348. SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government will consider setting up of International airports at Hyderabad and Visakhapatnam in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, when; and

(c) if not, reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT) : (a) to (c) There is no specific proposal under consideration of the Government at present to declare Hyderabad and Visakhapatnam as International airports. The Government had, however, recently appointed a committee to inter-alia identify some other airports to which international operations could be introduced with a view to relieving the pressure on the Bombay airport.

Implementation of Forest Policy

3349. SHRI V. S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the forest policy of the Union Government is being implemented in letter and spirit;

(b) whether any State Governments have violated the Guidelines in this respect; and

(c) if so, the names of those States and the steps being taken to see that the Central policy with regard to forest is implemented ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BIR SEN) ;

(a) to (c) The National Forest Policy was laid down in 1952. The Policy is an enunciation of general principles, which leaves discretion to the State Governments to regulate the details of forest administration in their respective territories. While all efforts are being made to implement the policy in letter and in spirit, certain inadequacies in implementation have come to notice. Violations of the provisions of the