

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE AND DEPARTMENTS UNDER THE CHARGE OF PRIME MINISTER (SHRI C. P. N. SINGH): (a) and (b). A Court of Inquiry is investigating the cause of the aircrash in Agra on 22nd February, 1980 resulting in the death of 47 Defence personnel and the findings will be available only after the investigations have been completed.

(c) As immediate assistance, the family of each Air Force personnel killed has been paid an amount ranging from Rs. 950/- to Rs. 2,000/- and the family of each Army personnel killed a sum of Rs. 500/-. Instructions have been issued to effect all the prescribed payments to the dependents of all the unfortunate personnel killed.

Reconsideration of Nuclear Policy

***28. SHRI N. E. HORO:** Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under the consideration of Government to reconsider its stand on the nuclear issue if Pakistan went nuclear; and

(b) whether any statement has been issued by the Pakistan President that they would get the 'results' within one year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE AND DEPARTMENTS UNDER THE CHARGE OF PRIME MINISTER (SHRI C. P. N. SINGH): (a) and (b). Government have seen press reports about Pakistan's efforts to acquire nuclear weapons and about the statement of the President of Pakistan referred to in the question. Our consistent nuclear policy, so far, has been that we would employ nuclear energy for peaceful and constructive purposes only.

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Report on Parasbigha incidents

***29. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR:** Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have obtained any report on the reported incidents of murder, plunder and arson in Parasbigha; and

(b) if so, details thereof and the steps taken by the Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI ZAIL SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) According to information furnished by the Government of Bihar a mob armed with rifles, guns and other deadly weapons surrounded village Parasbigha on the night of 6-7th February, 1980 and committed arson and murders resulting in the death of 11 persons on the spot and injuries to 9 persons. One of the injured succumbed to his injuries. A case was registered on 7th February, 1980 under different sections of the Indian Penal Code and the Arms Act. 26 accused persons have been arrested so far and action is being taken to apprehend 49 absconders. Investigation of this case is expected to be completed shortly.

Following the incident orders under section 144 of the Code of Criminal Procedure have been promulgated throughout Jehanabad sub-division and Magistrates with armed force have also been deployed in Parasbigha and in 10 adjoining villages. Senior Magistrates and police officers have been made incharge of zones for maintenance of law and order in sensitive villages. Mounted police have also been deployed. A member of Board of Revenue has been asked to inquire into alleged administrative lapses in connection with this incident. The Deputy Inspector General of Police, Magadh Range, District Magistrate and Supdt. of Police, Gaya, Sub Divisional Officer and Asst.