

the organisation required to cater to the needs of air traffic in respect of passenger and cargo handling, aircraft parking and other related matters at the four international airports in Delhi, Bombay, Madras and Calcutta in the context of impending introduction of large capacity aircraft. The Committee is expected to submit its final report to the Government shortly. The question of constituting an autonomous Airport Authority, the objectives of such an Authority and the financial implications thereof will be considered by Government in the light of the recommendations of the Committee when they are available.

(f) This aspect will be examined on receipt of the final report of the Committee.

Robbery in Calcutta

*742. SHRI JOTIRMOY BASU: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state;

(a) the progress made with regard to the investigation into the day-light Mail Van robbery that took place on the 1st July 1968 in front of the Park Street Post Office, Park Street, Calcutta;

(b) the number of culprits detected and put under arrest till date;

(c) whether according to a senior officer of the Detective Department, West Bengal Police, the dacoits might have escaped to Nepal;

(d) if so, the circumstances in which the dacoits escaped to Nepal; and

(e) the steps taken by the Police to catch them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA): (a) The investigation of the case registered by Calcutta Police in this connection is in progress.

(b) 7 persons have been arrested so far.

(c) West Bengal Government have intimated that there is no basis for this information. No evidence has come to notice so far of any such escape.

(d) and (e). Do not arise.

Scrapping of Linguistic States and Formation of Unitary system of Government.

*743. SHRI GADILINGANA GOWD: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any representations from organisations and individuals requesting for scrapping of linguistic States on the ground that experience has proved that [on account of formation of States on language basis, the tendency of disintegration of the country is increasing;

(b) whether Government have considered these representations and, if so, the decisions taken thereon;

(c) whether it is a fact that many eminent leaders and the Press have suggested formation of a Unitary type of Government for the country; and

(d) if so, whether Government have considered these suggestions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA): (a) Suggestions to this effect have been received from some individuals.

(c) Certain Press reports on the subject have come to the notice of the Government.

(b) and (d) Government consider that the decision to form States on linguistic basis was a correct one and that a strong public opinion against parochialism and not a reversal of this policy is a safeguard against such tendencies.

Nobel Prize to Dr. Hargobind Khurana

*744. SHRI MANIBHAI J. PATEL: Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Dr. Hargobind Khurana, this year's Nobel Prize winner, is an Indian National;

(b) if not, the circumstances under which he, who originally belongs to India, has adopted foreign citizenship;

(c) whether some efforts are being made by the Government of India to see that