

guage is incorporated in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution and if an autonomous district, including Darjeeling, is created. So, I would like to know what is the reaction of the Government at least to the language problem and what about the autonomous district which is being suggested by the Chief Minister of West Bengal....(Interruptions).

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: Not autonomous district, regional tutonomy for the hill areas.

S. BUTA SINGH: The hon. Member has mentioned one of the issues i.e. the Nepalese language. As I said, all these issues are before us and we are talking to the West Bengal Government. The Chief Minister is fully in touch with us.

I would like to say something on the regional autonomy. To us this regional autonomy is nothing but first step towards separatism. Therefore, the question of having regional autonomy also cannot be discussed. Whatever is there in the Constitution of India, within the frame work of the Constitution of India, we are willing to sort out the problems of Darjeeling area.

SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN: There was a talk between the GNLF leaders and the Prime Minister on 22nd July. But after returning back from there Mr. Subhash Gheising made a statement on 25th of July that whatever may be the talk, the Indian Government is very much in favour of a separate State of hill areas. Is it a fact or not? What is the reaction of the Central Government?

S. BUTA SINGH: I would like the hon. Member to believe whatever is being said here and not in the press.

Incident of Terrorism In Delhi

*87. **SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH:**
SHRI KAMLA PRASAD SINGH:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of incidents of violence of terrorism occurred in Delhi during the last two months;

(b) the number of casualties and victims of injury in different incidents;

(c) the progress of investigation made so far in these cases and arrests made if any;

(d) the steps taken by Government to curb such terrorist activities;

(e) whether Government of India had received any forewarning about these incidents in general or about any particular incident; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and what action was taken on this warning?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (f). A statement is given below.

STATEMENT

During the last two months there have been two incidents of violence by terrorists. In one incident, terrorists fired indiscriminately in Greater Kailash and other places in South Delhi on 13th June, 1987. 14 persons were killed and 18 others sustained injuries. The culprits involved have since been identified and one of them has already been arrested by the Punjab Police. In the other incident which took place in the early hours of 30th July, 1987 in Kalkaji area in South Delhi two groups of terrorists shot at two persons who later succumbed to their injuries. One of the culprits has been identified.

The coded message from the Indian High Commission in Canada was received by the Ministry of External Affairs in Delhi on

12th June, 1987. The message did not contain any specific information, but only conveyed general information to the effect that some rumours had been heard in a Gurudwara in Canada and that Sikh Extremists would try to create disturbances in Haryana and Delhi prior to and during the elections by blasting a number of bombs.

In any case, it had been anticipated that the extremists might create disturbances in Delhi and an alert already existed since the beginning of June, 1987.

In order to contain terrorism, the number of police control room vehicles has been increased to 165 round-the-clock. 100 pickets armed with automatic weapons and wireless sets have been posted at strategic points. Close vigil is being maintained.

[*Translation*]

SHRI KAMLA PRASAD SINGH: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to know from the hon. Minister of Home Affairs whether it is a fact that the Indian High Commission in Canada had forewarned the Government of India, on 12th June 1987, about the occurrence of such incidents, and if so, the reasons for not taking any preventive measures by the Delhi Administration?

[*English*]

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: A coded message from the Indian High Commission in Canada was received by the Ministry of External Affairs in Delhi on 12th June, 1987. The message did not contain any specific information but only conveyed in very general terms that some rumours had been heard in a Gurudwara in Canada that certain extremists would try to create disturbances in Haryana and Delhi by blasting a number of bombs. In any case, since it had been anticipated that the extremists might create disturbance in Delhi and in the neighbourhood during the period of the Haryana elections, an alert was in force in Delhi since the beginning of June, 1987.

[*Translation*]

SHRI KAMLA PRASAD SINGH: Sir, it has been stated that the number of vehicles and wireless sets has been increased. Can the incidents of terrorism occurring everyday be curbed by merely increasing the number of vehicles and wireless sets? Only yesterday, a similar mishap took place in Kalkaji. I want to know from the hon. Home Minister whether strong steps are being taken to curb terrorism?

[*English*]

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Mere increase in wireless sets will not curb terrorism. The idea behind increasing the number of wireless sets is to ensure that the police force is in communication with each other, and moves very quickly to the scene of the occurrence. We have increased the number of mobile patrolling vans. We have increased the number of static pickets. The idea is that once there is information about an occurrence or a crime, the police will be able to move in very quickly, cordon off roads and try to apprehend the terrorists. For example, in the earlier incident which happened in Greater Kailash, the police was able to converge on the scene and was able to reach the place where a car had been abandoned.

It is that which enabled the Police to identify one terrorist and arrest him also. The identity of the other terrorist is also now known and we are making efforts to arrest him also. The idea of increasing the number of wireless sets is only a part of the system to make the Police more mobile, more communicative with each other and more effective.

By itself, of course, it cannot mean anything.

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI: Sir, the report said that one of the culprits who participated in the killings yesterday had been identified. May I know whether anybody has been

apprehended so far? Also, there was a news item that some suit-case was found in a railway compartment in which there was a time bomb. Is there any connection between that incident and the Kalkaji incident?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: My earlier answer referred to the incident which happened in Greater Kailash some time ago, but I think the hon. Member wants to know about yesterday's incident. In yesterday's incident, we have been able to establish the identity of a person who may have committed the crime. One other person has been apprehended on suspicion. We have to interrogate him and try to establish the links between the person who has been identified and the person apprehended. As of now, I do not have any information that the bombs which were defused at another place have any connection with the terrorists attacks which took place yesterday. But it is too early to establish any connection or to disown any connection. We will have to await interrogation.

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU: Sir, terrorism and violence are increasing day by day. Sir, with regard to the terrorists activities which took place in 1985 wherein one of the youngest, energetic and dynamic Member of this House, Shri Lalit Maken and his wife were killed in day time, that too before their residence, I want to know whether the culprits involved have been traced so far. If it is not, does it not reflect on the efficiency of the Police and other people? Some time back, the terrorists killed some innocent people in Greater Kailash and now yesterday they killed two persons in Kalkaji. So, Sir, the terrorists activities are increasing day by day. Of course, you have increased the mobile control vans. But what is the efficiency of the Police people? I want to know whether their efficiency has been improved or not. I want a categorical answer from the hon. Minister.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: As far as the alleged assassins or suspected assassins of Shri Lalit Maken are concerned, the House is aware that they have been traced to the

United States and they have been apprehended in the United States. Extradition proceedings are now pending in the United States and when they are extradited and when they are prosecuted in the court of law....

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU: About two and half years are already over.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: They were apprehended about 2 months ago. I do not know the exact date. They were apprehended in the United States. Due to cooperation between the Indian authorities and the United States authorities, we have been able to apprehend them. Extradition proceedings have started. I believe that the case is posted for trial in the month of August. Our officers have gone to the United States and the US Government is cooperating with us. Extradition proceedings are not very simple proceedings. It will take some time. During the prosecution, we will have to establish whether the person is guilty of the crime.

Sir, as far as mobile control vans are concerned, we have increased their numbers. The numbers themselves add to efficiency because they have to patrol and cover a smaller area. I think our Police force like any other Police force can always do better, can always do better with more training and can always do better with more equipment. But I think it is rather unfair to say that they do nothing. The bomb blast case in Delhi was investigated and solved and we have prosecuted people. In the Greater Kailash incident, within 14 days one of them was arrested and the other has been identified and a search is going on. As regards yesterday's killings, one person has been apprehended and the identity of the other person has already been established within 24 hours. While, I will not say, Sir, that everything is very good. I would most earnestly request that we should not give the impression that everything is bad and nobody is doing his job. I think like any other Police force we could give more training, better equipment and we are constantly on

the job.

[*Translation*]

SHRI MADAN PANDEY: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we are aware that Government has not been successful in curbing terrorism despite its best efforts. In view of the incidents of terrorism occurring outside Punjab, does the Government intend to adopt some precautionary measure so that terrorism is contained and it does not affect the neighbouring States? If such a measure is under your consideration and which you do not want to reveal in public interest, still you will have to assure the people that strict vigilance is being kept on the movement of people who are entering or going out of the neighbouring states of Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Haryana and Jammu & Kashmir. If some persons are transporting arms and such other equipment in buses and other vehicles, they must be apprehended and checked. We want an assurance in this regard.

[*English*]

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, I am grateful to the hon. Member for raising this question. I would most earnestly ask you, Sir, and the House to consider why are these incidents now taking place outside Punjab. It is because of the tremendous pressure which the Punjab Administration and the Punjab police have placed upon the terrorists. And after the President's Rule was imposed and the pressure was piled upon the terrorists groups in Punjab, we anticipated that this will have a spill over effect in other States. About three weeks ago we called a meeting of Chief Secretaries, the Directors-General of Police and the Inspectores-General (Intelligence) of the neighbouring States and we discussed very elaborately the kind of threats that their States will face and we worked out very detailed plans, some of which have appeared in the newspapers, you might have noticed, Sir, that some States have set up special terrorists cells; we have worked out a system by which vigil will be maintained on

the borders, in the border villages where village officers will be involved, people will be involved. But let me say this, Sir, that as pressure mounts in Punjab the States around Punjab will face threats and the police administration in these States will have to gear themselves up to a much higher level of vigilance. It is unfortunate but true that Delhi faces the severest pressure. The police force here is under severe pressure, they are rising to the situation, but as I said earlier with great humility, there are inadequacies. We are conscious of the inadequacies. We promise, Sir, we will do our best, we are on the job and we will do our best.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Sir, I would like to ask a specific question regarding the action of the terrorists on 13th July. He has no doubt made some clarification earlier, but I would like to have further clarification. As the news has already appeared in a section of the newspapers in Delhi that prior to 13th July episode, that is, atrocities committed by the terrorists, violence committed by them, already one Sikh gentleman sensing that some conspiracy was going on in Ottawa to organise and conspire for violence in India and in Delhi, he went to the nearest telephone and rang up the Embassy in Ottawa and gave them the information that 'this is what is being planned'. He did make reference to that. Now, I want to know whether it is a fact that due to some communication gap actually the Ministry received that information after the murders were committed on 13th July and if it is so, who is responsible for this communication gap. Have you checked up from the Embassy in Ottawa at which particular point of time they were communicated the message and at which point of time you have got the message? Will you try to see that those who were responsible for this communication gap are dealt with?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, I want to take half-a-minute to explain the sources of information.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: All right, we will start the Zero Hour later.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: No, no. I will explain. So, we get a lot of information. A lot of messages come, a lot of information flows. It is really for the Intelligence agencies to advise the Government about the quality of information and about the kind of steps that have to be taken. As I said earlier, a coded message from the Indian High Commission was received in the Ministry of External Affairs on 12th June. But that message said this. I almost quoted from the cable. It said that some rumours had been heard in a Gurudwara in Canada that certain extremists would try to create disturbances by blasting a number of bombs. This is a very general information which really does not help the police to take any specific action except to place them on an alert situation. In fact, Delhi and Haryana had already been placed on alert in the beginning of June.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: This was not what was communicated in the Embassy letter.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Mr. Dandavate, believe me when I say, this is exactly what was communicated to the Embassy, to our High Commission and it was exactly what was conveyed through the cable to the Ministry of External Affairs. I am not subtracting or adding any word.

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: Why did it not reach the Home Ministry till the events were over?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: This coded message was received by the MEA on 12th of June. Delhi and Haryana had already been placed under alert. It is admitted that the Home Ministry had been given the cable

only on the 15th. We have now asked the M.E.A. to look into what procedures are there.....

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS [Translation]

Incidence of Crime in Delhi

*81. SHRI SARFARAZ AHMAD: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of incidents of loot, dacoity, robbery and murder reported in Delhi during the last one year and consequent loss of life and property;

(b) the number of persons arrested in connection with these incidents;

(c) the steps taken by Government to curb such incidents; and

(d) the number of FIRs lodged during the last one year which were investigated and found baseless and the action taken against the persons concerned?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (S.BUTA SINGH): (a) to (d). The requisite information about the number of incidents of loot/robbery, dacoity and murder, the number of persons arrested, loss of life and property, in connection with these incidents in Delhi, during 1986 and upto 15th July, 1987 is indicated below:

STATEMENT

<i>Year</i>	<i>No. of cases reported</i>	<i>No. of persons arrested</i>	<i>Loss of life</i>	<i>Loss of property (approximately)</i>
1	2	3	4	5
	DACOITY			(Rs.)
1986	21	75	1	41 lakhs