

INTER-STATE COUNCIL

4.1 The Inter-State Council (ISC) was established under Article 263 of the Constitution of India through a Presidential Order dated May 28, 1990. The Council is a recommendatory body for making recommendations upon any such subject and in particular, recommendations for the better coordination of policy and action with respect to that subject and deliberating upon such other matters of general interest to the States as may be referred by the Chairman of the Council.

4.2 The Council comprises the Prime Minister as Chairperson and Chief Ministers of all the States, Chief Ministers of Union territories having Legislative Assemblies, Administrators of Union territories not having Legislative Assemblies, Governors of States under President's rule, six Ministers of Cabinet rank in the Union Council of Ministers nominated by the Prime Minister as Members and four Ministers of Cabinet rank in the Union Council of Ministers nominated by the Prime Minister as permanent invitees.

4.3 The Inter-State Council under the Chairmanship of Prime Minister and the Standing Committee of the Inter-State Council under the Chairmanship of Union Home Minister were reconstituted on December 7, 2006 and on June 22, 2007 respectively. The Standing Committee was set up initially on December 5, 1996 for continuous consultation and processing matters for consideration of the Council. Further, it can also consider any matter referred to it by the Chairman of the Council.

Blue print of Action Plan on Good Governance

4.4 ISC, in its 9th meeting held on June 28, 2005 under the Chairmanship of Prime Minister, considered the Agenda item: Blue print of Action Plan on Good Governance and endorsed the 139-point.

Action Plan on Good Governance.

4.5 The 139-point Action Plan on Good Governance, approved by the Council, have been circulated to the concerned Union Ministries/ Departments and State Governments/UT Administrations for implementation and submission of Action Taken Reports (ATRs). Inter-State Council Secretariat (ISCS) is monitoring the implementation of the Action Plan on Good Governance.

National Centre for Good Governance [NCGG]

4.6 The 139-point Action Plan on Good Governance also envisages the setting up of a National Centre for Good Governance (NCGG) as a measure of institutional capacity-building. NCGG is envisioned to be a world-class institution in guiding good governance reforms in India and the developing world. It would develop a strategy for institutional capacity-building based on the principles of complementarities and strategic alliances with the existing institutions of excellence in the country and abroad so as to develop synergy for efficient implementation of good governance reforms agenda

in the country. It would act as the 'Lead' institution for collection, collation and effective sharing of good governance including e-governance initiatives between the Union and the States.

State Centres for Good Governance

4.7 The 139-point Action Plan on Good Governance also contains the Action Point of identifying one Institution at the State level to be the nodal institution for linkages with NCGG. All the State Governments/UT Administrations have been requested to take immediate steps to set up Centres for Good Governance (CGG) at the State/UT level. Most of the State Governments have shown keen interest in the matter. So far 6 State Governments namely Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal have set up their State CGGs. Necessary assistance is being provided to the State Governments in this regard.

Implementation Report on the decisions taken by Inter-State Council on the recommendations of Sarkaria Commission

4.8 Of the 247 recommendations of Sarkaria Commission on which final view has been taken by the Council, 179 recommendations have been accepted and implemented, 65 recommendations have not been accepted either by the ISC or the Administrative Ministry concerned and 3 are at different stages of consideration in the concerned Ministries/Departments.

10th Meeting of Inter-State Council

4.9 On December 9, 2006, the 10th meeting of the ISC was held in Delhi under the Chairmanship of the Prime Minister to consider the agenda item 'Atrocities on Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs) and status of implementation of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989'.

4.10 There was consensus among the

participants to the effect that there is scope for taking more stringent action under the provisions of law for helping the weaker sections of the society to ensure that real justice is done to them. The Chief Ministers agreed to the suggestions including, inter-alia the appointment of special public prosecutors, proper registration of cases and their expeditious disposal in the interest of justice to SCs/STs, proper rehabilitation of STs whenever their lands are acquired for public projects. The decisions taken in the meeting would be useful in helping the SCs/STs.

4.11 The decisions of the Council have been circulated to the concerned Union Ministries/Departments and State Governments for implementation and submission of ATRs.

Study on Sub-national governance

4.12 ISCS has commissioned a study on Sub-national governance. The study would delineate Indian experience with reference especially to administrative, judicial and socio-economic impact of models of sub-national governance and likewise international experience (other innovative models), and examine their impact on core issues like sovereignty, national integration, natural resource use, requirements of modern day integrated financial systems, interdependence, sharing of powers and the related procedural aspects. The study have been awarded to the National Academy of Legal Studies and Research (NALSAR), University of Law, Hyderabad in January – February, 2006. An interim report on Part-I of the Study has been submitted in October, 2007 by NALSAR, Hyderabad.

Study on Compensation to Resource-bearing States

4.13 ISCS has commissioned a study on Compensation to resource-bearing States by appointing 'The Energy & Resources Institute' (TERI), New Delhi as the consultant for the purpose in October, 2006. The study is a multi-disciplinary

one covering, in general, compensation to resource bearing States, with specific focus on the sectors viz., minerals including coal, hydropower and petroleum & natural gas. While Phase-I of the study is focused on minerals including coal and hydropower, Phase-II is focused on petroleum and natural gas. The study would suggest a comprehensive and broad policy framework for compensation to the resource-bearing States. Report on Phase-I of the Study has been submitted by TERI in May 2007. Draft report on Phase-II of the Study has also been submitted by TERI in September, 2007.

Study on 'Creation of a Common Indian Market on Agricultural goods and commodities'

4.14 ISCS has commissioned a study on 'Creation of a Common Indian Market on Agricultural goods and commodities' by appointing M/s Global Agri System Pvt. Ltd. under the chairmanship of Shri Gokul Patnaik as the consultant for the purpose in August, 2007. The objective of the study is to develop a national level single market for agricultural goods

and commodities by removing all the existing barriers to trade and multiplicity of Acts and appropriate fiscal policies and marketing arrangements across the country. The progress of the study will be regularly monitored by a Consultancy Monitoring Evaluation Committee (CMEC) to be set up by the Inter-State Council Secretariat which will also evaluate the report/deliverables.

The 4th International Conference on Federalism

4.15 The 4th International Conference on Federalism (ICF) was held between November 5 – 7, 2007. It was attended by nearly 1,200 delegates, including Heads of various States/Governments and very high dignitaries from India.

4.16 There were four Themes in the Conference namely, (i) Building on and Accommodating Diversity, (ii) Fiscal Federalism, (iii) Interaction in a Federal System and (iv) Local Government in Federal Systems. Several distinguished speakers addressed the audience.



Dr. Manmohan Singh, Prime Minister of India delivering the inaugural address on November 5, 2007



The visiting dignitaries along with the President of India rise for the National Anthem during the valedictory session on November 7, 2007.

4.17 The Prime Minister in his address lauded the strengths of the Federal system of governance. It is the concept of Federation that has enabled large nation-States to survive in today's world as federalism successfully mediates between the opposing pulls and pressures of individual identities and the needs of a national identity. He also referred to the challenges posed by federal governance by way of fiscal barriers to inter-State movement of goods, utilisation of natural resources, persistence of inter-regional disparities in development levels, river water sharing and a balanced and equitable management of growing inter-dependence among the units of a federation. The Prime Minister called upon the participants to deliberate upon as to which of the three options is the best tool for managing federal governance namely, single party dominance, multi-party model with dominance of national parties, or multi-party model which is an amalgam of parties with national reach and several with a very limited sub-national reach. The Union Home Minister in his keynote address observed that the concept of the federalism is based on liberal and democratic and all- inclusive attitudes of human beings. The country's constitution provides for federal form of governance in times of peace, and unitary in times of emergencies.

ZONAL COUNCIL SECRETARIAT

4.18 The five Zonal Councils namely, the Eastern, Western, Central, Southern and Northern are statutory bodies which have been set up under the States Re-organisation Act, 1956 passed by the Parliament. The Zonal Councils are high level advisory bodies chaired by the Union Home Minister and the members are the State Chief Ministers and two Ministers nominated by the respective member States. These Zonal Councils have been set up with the aim to provide a common meeting ground in each zone for ensuring resolution of inter-State problems, fostering balanced regional development and building harmonious Centre-State relations.

4.19 The Zonal Council Secretariat interacts with State Governments, Central Ministries and institutions like the Planning Commission to explore issues of relevance for deliberation of the Zonal Councils. However, it is open to the enlightened citizens to identify such issues and bring them to the notice of the Zonal Council Secretariat.

4.20 The Zonal Councils have so far, met 106 times since their inception and have contributed

significantly in bringing about socio-economic advancement in different parts of the country. Apart from specific issues relating to States/Union territories of the Zones, issues of national importance like Internal Security, Right to Information Act, National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, trafficking in women and children, coastal security, etc. have been discussed and useful recommendations made. Recommendations of the Zonal Councils have facilitated significant changes at the ground level.

4.21 In the meeting of Southern Zonal Council held on February 12, 2007 at Hyderabad, the Council deliberated upon the issues relating to Internal Security. The Chairman stated that the expenditure incurred on providing security should be treated as investment for efficiency and better performance and advised the State Governments to give emphasis on raising new battalions, filling up the existing vacancies in police, providing modern weapons, transport and communication facilities, better training, use of private security agencies and strengthening of Special Branches.

4.22 The Chairman advised the State Governments to set up separate Committees of Experts to look into the details of mega city policing in respect of Hyderabad, Bangalore, Chennai and Kochi. He also observed that naxalism should be viewed not only as a law and order problem but also as a socio-economic problem.

MODERNISATION OF PRISONS

4.23 Administration of prisons is the responsibility of the State Governments as "Prisons" have been included in List II of the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution. The administration and management of prisons is regulated in accordance with the provisions of the Prisons Act, 1894 and the detailed procedures set out in Jail Manuals framed by respective State Governments. The State Governments are empowered to enact legislation and make rules and regulations on the subject.

4.24 Due to financial constraints, many States were unable to make adequate allocations for the maintenance and upkeep of prisons, increase the capacity in jails to accommodate the increasing number of undertrials and convicted prisoners, improve the sanitation in prisons and provide adequate housing to prison personnel. This resulted in the deterioration of the condition of prisons, prisoners, and prison staff. The Central Government provided financial assistance to states between 1987 to 2002 under various schemes aggregating Rs.131.72 crore to improve these conditions. However, this did not lead to a substantial improvement on the ground.

4.25 Therefore, in order to improve the condition of prisons, prisoners and the prison staff, the Central Government launched a non-plan scheme in 2002-03 for construction of additional prisons to reduce overcrowding, repair and renovation of existing prisons, improvement in sanitation and water supply and provide living accommodation for prison personnel. The scheme which is known as 'Modernisation of Prisons' was to be implemented over a period of five years (2002-07) in 27 States with an outlay of Rs.1800 crore on a cost sharing basis in the ratio of 75:25 between the Central and State Governments respectively.

4.26 The scheme has been extended by a further period of two years without additional funds to enable the State Governments to complete their activities by March 31, 2009. The State Governments have now been allowed to utilise 10% of their entitlement under the Annual Action Plan for 2006-07 on purchase of equipments for modernisation of jails and building/improving infrastructure for undertaking correctional programmes.

4.27 During the year 2007-08, a budget provision of Rs.180 crore has been made. Against this, till March 12, 2007, an amount of Rs.177.9717 crore has already been released to various State

Governments. As against the total amount of Rs.1347.40 crore allocated to all the States over a period of 5 years, an amount of Rs. 1231.1566 crore have already been released to the State Governments. Against a target of 168 new jails, the State Governments have completed the construction of 56 jails and 60 jails are expected to be completed by March, 31. 2008. The progress of the Scheme is being monitored closely with a view to ensuring that the funds released to the States are properly utilised for the purpose for which they have been released.

Institutes of Correctional Administration

4.28 To improve the quality of prison administration, continuous efforts are made by imparting training to prison personnel. The Institute of Correctional administration (ICA) was established at Chandigarh for that purpose and the entire expenditure on its establishment is borne by the Ministry. During the year 2007, the Institute organised 23 training programmes for police officers and 14 for prison officers in which 399 police officers and 194 prison officers were trained. In addition, a Regional Institute for Correctional administration (RICA), functioning at Vellore, Tamil Nadu, is being funded by the State Governments of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu. The Ministry of Home Affairs had provided a one-time grant for setting up the Institute. The Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPR&D) also plays a significant role through research work and training in the field of prison administration.

Repatriation of Prisoners Act, 2003

4.29 Earlier there was no legal provision either in the Code of Criminal Procedure or any other law under which foreign prisoners could be transferred to the country of their origin to serve the remaining part of their sentence nor was there a provision for the transfer of prisoners of Indian origin convicted by a foreign court to serve their sentence in India. From the humanitarian angle it was felt that if foreign

convicted nationals were transferred to their home countries and prisoners of Indian origin brought to India to serve the remaining part of their sentence, it would enable them to be near their families and would help in the process of their social rehabilitation.

4.30 The Repatriation of Prisoners Act, 2003 was enacted for achieving the above objectives. The Act was notified and came into force on January 1, 2004. Subsequently, the Repatriation of Prisoners Rules, 2004 were published in the Official Gazette on August 9, 2004.

4.31 For implementation of the Act, a treaty/ agreement is signed with countries having mutual interest with us on this matter.

4.32 So far, agreements have been signed with the Governments of the United Kingdom, Mauritius, Bulgaria, Cambodia, Egypt and France. Negotiations have also been concluded with Government of Canada.

Correctional Service Medal

4.33 The All India Committee on Jail Reforms (1980-83) recommended that Government of India should institute medals for rewarding prison personnel and the State Governments/UT Administrations should suitably recognise special services rendered by the prison personnel. The aforesaid recommendations were further supported by a Group of Officers headed by Shri R.K. Kapoor (1986). The Group of Officers was constituted to examine and review various aspects of administration and management of prisons, especially in the context of security and discipline in prisons and suggest measures for their improvement.

4.34 Based on these recommendations, the following medals have been instituted for award to the prison personnel every year on the occasions of the Republic Day and Independence Day:

Gallantry Medal

- President's Correctional Service Medal for Gallantry (PCSMG)
- Correctional Service Medal for Gallantry (CSMG)

Service Medal

- President's Correctional Service Medal for Distinguished Service (PCSMDS)
- Correctional Service Medal for Meritorious Service (CSMMS)

4.35 The number of PCSMDS and the number of CSMMS which can be awarded in a year are 25 and 75 respectively. There is no limit to the number of medals to be awarded for gallantry in one year.

4.36 The PCSMDS/PCSMG and the CSMMS/CSMG are awarded:

- (i) for a specially distinguished record in correctional service;
- (ii) for success in organising correctional service or maintaining the administration in special difficulties like mass admission of prisoners; and
- (iii) for outstanding ability in putting out riots, preventing escape of prisoners, rescuing the officials, sportsmanship, public work and exemplary service marked by efficiency, devotion to duty, integrity, loyalty, high sense of discipline and spirit of sacrifice.

4.37 The PCSMG and the CSMG are awarded for conspicuous/exceptional gallantry in apprehending a prisoner or in preventing their escape, the risk incurred being estimated with regard to the obligations and the duties of the officer concerned and for the outstanding work done in the preceding year.

4.38 A total number of 53 prison personnel of various States were awarded the Correctional Service Medals during 2007.

TRAFFICKING IN HUMAN BEINGS

Project on “Strengthening the Law Enforcement Response in India against Trafficking in Persons through training and capacity building”

4.39 The Ministry of Home Affairs, in association with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), is working on a two year project for training of Law Enforcement Officials on human trafficking in five States, namely Andhra Pradesh, Goa, Maharashtra, West Bengal and Bihar. The project aims at raising the awareness of Law Enforcement Officials (police and prosecutors) on the problem of human trafficking and further build up their capacity to better investigate the crime and prosecute the offenders perpetrating such crimes. A Project Steering Committee(PSC) was constituted for guiding and monitoring of the project functioning. The last meeting of PSC was held on October 3, 2007. The following progress has been made so far:

- The Project has facilitated networking of law enforcement agencies with civil society partners and other stake holders, undertaking of several innovative initiatives in rehabilitation and prevention of human Trafficking and setting up of Integrated Anti Human Trafficking Units (AHTUs) involving synergy between government officials and NGOs in the states of Goa, West Bengal, Andhra Pradesh and Bihar where they are all functional.
- A total of 290 training programmes for police and prosecutors have been organised in which 10,194 police officials and prosecutors have been trained in the five project states.
- Grants had been given to all the Project States for setting up Nodal Training Cells(NTC).

- Two films have been developed under the project, one on Anti Human Trafficking and another on Anti Human Trafficking Units.
- Two workshops have been organised for judicial officers for awareness generation on human trafficking.

Meeting of the Regional Task Force to Implement the SAARC Convention relating to Trafficking in Women and Children for Prostitution - July 26, 2007.

4.40 The Regional Task Force of SAARC for Implementation of the SAARC Convention on Prevention and Combating Trafficking in Women and Children for Prostitution met for the first time in New Delhi on July 26, 2007 in New Delhi. The decisions taken in the SAARC Meeting included sharing best practices, setting up a toll free phone number for use of victims, capacity building and training programmes based on the best practices, wherever possible harmonizing national legislations to tackle trafficking and development of Standard Operating Procedures(SOP) for operationalising the Convention, including repatriation of victims. A draft

SOP prepared by the Government of India has been sent to the Ministry of External Affairs for circulation to SAARC Member States.

South Asia Regional Conference of the UN Global Initiative to Fight Human Trafficking (UN.GIFT) – 10-11 October, 2007.

4.41 In partnership with the Ministry of Home Affairs, the South Asia Regional Office of UNODC organised the South Asia Regional Conference of the “Global Initiative to Fight Human Trafficking (UN.GIFT)”, at Vigyan Bhavan, New Delhi on October 10-11, 2007. The Union Home Minister presided over the Valedictory Session. The event involved all SAARC countries, except Bhutan, – namely Bangladesh, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, as well as Afghanistan, which recently joined SAARC. At the end of the Conference, the Delhi Declaration was read out which summarised the recommendations made during the Conference by the working groups. Also a Compendium on Best Practices on Anti Human Trafficking by Law Enforcement Agencies was released by the Home Minister. The same has been circulated to all State Governments and UTs for their use.



Union Home Minister attending the south Asia Regional Conference of the UN Global Initiative to Fight Human Trafficking (U.N. GIFT)

COMMISSION ON CENTRE-STATE RELATIONS

4.42 One of the commitments of the Government was to set up a new Commission to look into the issues of Centre-State relations keeping in view the sea-changes that have taken place in the polity and economy of India since the Sarkaria Commission had last looked at the issue of Centre-

State relations over two decades ago. In fulfilment of that commitment, a Gazette Notification was issued on September 30, 2005 indicating Government's resolve to set up the Commission including the terms of reference of the Commission. The Commission has been constituted as under, vide Gazette Notifications dated April 27, 2007 and July 03, 2007:

Sl. No.	Name	Appointed as
(i)	Shri Justice Madan Mohan Punchhi (Retd.) Former Chief Justice of India	Chairperson
(ii)	Shri Dharendra Singh, IAS (KN: 68) (Retd.) Former Secretary to the GOI	Member
(iii)	Shri Vinod Kumar Duggal, IAS (AGMU: 68) (Retd.) Former Secretary to the GOI	Member
(iv)	Dr. N. R. Madhava Menon, Former Director, National Judicial Academy, Bhopal & National Law School of India, Bangalore	Member
(v)	*Dr. Amaresh Bagchi, Emeritus Professor, National Institute of Public Finance and Policy, New Delhi	Member

* Dr. A. Bagchi has since passed away on February 20, 2008.

4.43 The Chairperson of the Commission has been given the status of a Cabinet Minister and the Members have been accorded the rank of Ministers of State.

4.44 The Commission will devise its own procedure for the discharge of its functions, and the Commission may, if it deems it necessary so to do, undertake investigation or examination of such matters as it may deem fit to be made in such manner and by such persons as it may consider appropriate. The Ministries and Departments of the Government of India shall furnish such information and documents and provide assistance as may be required by the Commission from time to time. The Government of India trusts that the State Governments/UT Administrations and others

concerned will extend their fullest cooperation and assistance to the Commission.

4.45 The Commission will complete its work and submit its report with recommendations within two years.

NATIONAL CRIME RECORDS BUREAU (NCRB)

AN ISO 9001 : 2000 Organisation

4.46 NCRB was set up in 1986 to function as a clearing house of information on crime and criminals including those operating at national and international level so as to assist the investigators and others by linking crime to the perpetrators,

collection and processing of crime statistics and finger prints; to coordinate, guide and assist the State Crime Record Bureaux and provide training to police officers. NCRB endeavours to empower the Police with Information Technology and Criminal Intelligence to enable them to effectively and efficiently enforce the law and improve public service delivery, as also to achieve excellence in crime analysis and upgrade their capacity to use Information Technology and IT enabled solutions.



Union Home Minister attending NCRB's Investiture Ceremony on April 17, 2007

NATIONAL PROJECTS

Crime Criminal Information System (CCIS)

4.47 This system has been upgraded to CCIS Multi-Lingual web-enabled (CCIS MLe) in the year 2005 with facility for 5 regional languages i.e. Marathi, Gujarati, Tamil, Kannada and Gurmukhi, besides English and Hindi. Feature of crime analysis through data warehousing has also been added. The application has been web-enabled so that the field level investigating and supervisory officers can access the CCIS MLe database at National and State Levels through internet; anywhere - anytime. NCRB has been conducting workshops and imparting training to senior and field-level police officers at the States and District Headquarter levels on their request.

4.48 Continuous efforts are being made to update the CCIS MLe database. Union Home Secretary has written to all State Governments to capture complete data for the last 5 years. This aspect is also being stressed in the meetings being held with the States in connection with Police Modernisation and Monitoring Committee Meetings. All these efforts have yielded results and database size has increased to more than 3 crore records. However, the States need to continuously update the data and complete the backlog.

Organised Crime Intelligence System (OCIS)

4.49 The Organised Crime Intelligence System (OCIS) aims to create a comprehensive database in respect of criminals involved in activities like smuggling of drugs and arms, manufacture of illicit arms and explosives, counterfeit currency, money-laundering, terrorist activities etc., and underworld elements, effective coordination among the police in respect of such activities, sharing of data and preparation of background files on such criminals and organised gangs. The pilot project on 'Organised Crime Intelligence System (OCIS)' is operational in Haryana, Punjab, Jammu & Kashmir, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal and Delhi with effect from November, 2005 on the criminal activity of "Theft of Automobiles" and in Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra for "Trafficking of Women and Children for Prostitution and Maid Services". States are collecting and compiling the information for OCIS databank in the standard format and also improving the quality of databank. The proposal to rollout the OCIS in remaining States/UTs is under consideration of the Ministry.

Common Integrated Police Application (CIPA)

4.50 The project is aimed at building the basic infrastructure and mechanisms for the Crime and Criminal Information System, based on Cr.PC which is uniform across the country, from Police Station level onwards. CIPA being a National project is to be implemented in a time-bound manner from police station level onwards for computerisation of police records and use of IT in their functioning on a uniform basis throughout the country. Out of around 14,000 police stations in the country, hardware has been delivered at approximately 10% of police stations (1,280) from 28 States taken up in the first phase. The system has become operational in 1,298 police stations (1,156 in States + 142 in UTs) in the country where work of registration of FIR and other modules has been started on Computers. Implementation of phase-II in 30% more police stations has also been started.

4.51 The national level Central CIPA Implementation Committee comprising of Director, NCRB and representatives from the Ministry of Home Affairs (Police Modernisation and Union Territories Divisions), NIC, National Institute of Criminology and Forensic Science and States, has been constituted to monitor the implementation, approve the customisation requirement, etc in respect of the different States/UTs. State and District level CIPA Implementation Committees have also been formed. The process of customisation of the software as per the requirements of the States is in progress. State and Central level Software Development Teams have been formed to accomplish this task.

4.52 State Crime Records Bureau and State Police Training Academies are conducting State specific courses in this connection with the assistance of NIC. NCRB has introduced two advanced courses on CIPA in its training calendar for resource persons, who in turn will impart training and attend to trouble-shooting in the States. NCRB has also proposed to start similar advanced courses in Regional Police Computer Training Centres. Technical Assistants have been appointed at the

police stations for six months who will train the functional level police personnel and Investigation Officers (IOs) on this application.

4.53 Inspection of CIPA sites and workshops are being conducted by NCRB teams which have visited 11 States namely Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Jharkhand, Kerala, Manipur, Mizoram, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal and would visit the remaining States during the current financial year.

4.54 A Sub-Group has been formed by this Ministry with a specific mandate for evolution of methodology for vertical integration of CIPA and common software for adding further functionalities. The Sub-Group has conducted five meetings till date and report is under preparation. System Required Specification (SRS) for further functionalities are also being finalised by the Sub-Group and two meetings in this connection have been held.

4.55 This important programme was being implemented so far as a part of the Non-Plan Scheme for Modernisation of State Police Forces. During 2007, it has been converted into a Plan Scheme with an Eleventh Plan outlay of Rs.2000 crore, with a view to expand its coverage both territorially and in functional terms. The latter would include high speed connectivity right from police station to District, State and National levels, provision for public service delivery and linkages to data bases of other wings of criminal justice administration and Departments of Prison, Prosecution, Judiciary, Forensic Science Laboratories, Finger Print Bureaux, Transport Department, Passport Offices, etc.

Public Service Delivery System

4.56 NCRB has also developed some systems with a view to provide public services in the field of coordination of stolen and recovered properties, missing, kidnapped and arrested persons etc. on the basis of available crime data from the States.

4.57 **Motor Vehicle Coordination System (MVCS)** is designed for coordination of stolen and

recovered motor vehicles as well as inquiries relating to them. It is also being used by the public to ascertain the status of a used vehicle before entering into any transaction whether it is stolen or otherwise. Total 32 counters across the country (including one at the NCRB Headquarters) are providing this service direct to the public. Approximately, 2,500 inquiries are being replied every month by the NCRB counter and 5,000 queries received from Motor Licensing Officers are also being replied through the system. The service has been web-enabled.

4.58 **Fire-arm Coordination System** provides information both to the police and public relating to lost, stolen and recovered firearms. **Wanted-Arrested (Talash) System** has also been designed for matching of missing, kidnapped, wanted, traced, arrested, unidentified persons and dead bodies. The System is operational at NCRB Headquarters and queries, mainly from Police, are being processed. The data has also been uploaded on NCRB website for viewing.

4.59 **Counterfeit Currency Information System** maintains data relating to counterfeit currency recovered by RBI branches and seized by police according to denominations, series and numbers etc.

Portrait Building System

4.60 Window - based Portrait Building System has been made available up to district level in all States and UTs. This system helps in preparing portraits of suspected criminals on the basis of information provided by the eye-witnesses. Total 3,068 portraits in 1,862 cases have been prepared by NCRB till December 31, 2007 by using this software.

Monitoring Committee

4.61 NCRB organizes regular Monitoring Committee Meetings (MCMs) in order to monitor the performance and discuss issues relating to various National Projects such as Crime Criminal Information System (CCIS), Common Integrated Police Application (CIPA), Organised Crime Information System (OCIS), Automated Fingerprint Information System (AFIS) and other applications being implemented and maintained by NCRB. During these meetings, views of various police organisations and States/UTs are shared and follow-up actions are taken.

Quality Policy

4.62 NCRB has been taking action to comply with the standards requirements through a Quality



Union Home Minister presenting renewed ISO certificate to Director, NCRB

Management System(QMS) , comprising Internal Quality Audits and feedback analysis to enhance efficiency in the areas of public service delivery and customer satisfaction. The Bureau of Indian Standards has renewed IS/ISO 9001 : 2000 certification of NCRB, for a period of 3 years from March 08, 2007 to March 07, 2010, based on the performance of the Bureau in maintaining and continuously improving upon the effectiveness of the established QMS. The license was awarded to the Director, NCRB, by the Hon'ble Union Home Minister on the occasion of the Investiture Function held on April 17, 2007.

Training

4.63 NCRB is running a number of specialised courses on Information Technology and Fingerprint Science for Indian and foreign police officers. NCRB also assists the State Police Computer Training Centres (PCTCs) in an effort to prepare an enabling IT environment and computer trained personnel right down to Police Station level. The table below gives the number of courses run and persons trained at NCRB and State PCTCs during 2007 (April to December, 2007) :

	AT NCRB	AT PCTCs	Total
No. of Programmes conducted	20	11	31
No. of Officers Attended	407	324	731

4.64 NCRB also conducts two prestigious foreigners' training programmes, namely, 'Information Technology in Law Enforcement' and 'Advanced Finger-Print Science and Computers' under the, 'Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation, (ITEC) and 'Special Commonwealth African Assistance Plan' (SCAAP) schemes of Ministry of External Affairs as well as 'Technical Cooperation Scheme' of Colombo Plan (TCS).

NCRB has trained 476 foreign police officers from 69 countries since the inception of foreign training programmes in the year 1990.

CENTRAL FINGER PRINT BUREAU (CFPB)

4.65 The Central Finger Print Bureau (CFPB) came into existence in the year 1955 in Kolkata. The administrative control of CFPB was transferred to NCRB in 1986. The CFPB is an apex body in the country which co-ordinates, guides, monitors and provides technical support to the State Finger Print Bureaux, as well as investigating agencies and international organisations in all matters related to the Finger Print Science.

4.66 CFPB has done pioneering work in automation of finger prints at national level using "Automated Fingerprint Identification System". It is a computerised system of matching fingerprints on the basis of ridge-characteristics. Ten-digit Finger Print databases of convicted and arrested persons are maintained. The databases relate to 5,59,777 convicted persons, 2,33,783 Search Slips (29%) of Arrested persons and the remaining 12,846 records (1.6%) are Interpol references. The system is currently under upgradation.

4.67 The Bureau conducts a one-year Proficiency Course at its Kolkata Unit and two Advanced Courses in Finger Print Science for Indian and Foreign Police officers at Delhi. The Bureau brings out an annual publication on the activities of State FPBs and CFPB and other allied matters.

SCHEME FOR MODERNISATION OF STATE POLICE FORCES

4.68 The Scheme for 'Modernisation of State Police Forces (SPFs)' is a significant initiative of the

Ministry towards capacity building of the SPFs; especially for meeting the emerging challenges to public order and internal security in the form of terrorism, naxalism and emerging new forms of crimes and criminal activities, etc. Some of the major items covered under the Scheme include construction of secure police stations, outposts, police lines, mobility, modern weaponry, surveillance, communication and forensic equipments, upgradation of training infrastructure, police housing, computerisation, etc.

4.69 The States have been categorised into 'A' and 'B' categories with 100% and 75% Central funding, respectively. While J&K and eight North Eastern States viz., Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Tripura and Sikkim have been classified as 'A'-category States, the remaining 19 States fall in the 'B'-category. The Scheme has been formulated with the aim of accelerating the process of modernisation in the police forces, with focused priority on States facing problems of terrorism and naxalism. The allocation in BE 2007-08 under the scheme was fixed at Rs.1,013.83 crore.

4.70 The Scheme also includes a special component for strengthening the police infrastructure in the 76 naxal-affected districts at the rate of Rs.2 crore per affected district per year initially for a period of 5 years. Similarly, a provision has been made for Rs. 1 crore per district per year initially for a period of 5 years for the 30 districts situated on international borders i.e. the Indo-Nepal and Indo-Bhutan borders.

4.71 The details of the Central assistance released to the State Governments during the last 8 years are as under:

Sl. No.	Financial Year	Amount released (Rs. in crore)
i.	2000-01	1,000
ii.	2001-02	1,000
iii.	2002-03	695
iv.	2003-04	705.27
v.	2004-05	960
vi.	2005-06	1,025
vii.	2006-07	1,065.25
viii.	2007-08	865.18*

*As on March 13, 2008

Objectives

4.72 The main objective of the scheme is to meet the identified deficiencies in various aspects of police administration, which were worked out by the BPR&D in a study done in the year 2000. Another objective of the scheme is to reduce the dependence of the State Governments on the Army and CPMFs to control internal security and law and order situations by capacity building of and equipping the SPFs adequately and imparting the required training.

Impact of the Scheme

4.73 The scheme has made perceptible impact in all the States and has provided much-needed assistance and impetus to police modernisation. For instance, proper buildings for police stations/outposts with required facilities have provided a safe, secure and comfortable environment, construction of houses for police personnel and provision of modern weapons have boosted their morale, particularly in extremist-affected areas. The increased availability of vehicles at cutting edge level has improved mobility and reduced response time.

4.74 A satellite-based all-India police telecommunication network, namely, POLNET is also being funded under this Scheme. This is now proposed to be suitably integrated with CIPA.

Mega City Policing and Desert Policing

4.75 A new concept of Mega City Policing (MCP) was introduced in 2005-06 under the Scheme for Modernisation of SPFs covering seven cities of Mumbai, Bangalore, Hyderabad, Chennai, Delhi, Kolkata and Ahmedabad. The respective States are required to include MCP proposals in their Annual Plan. These proposals are considered and approved by a High Powered Committee as an integral component of the MPF Scheme pertaining to the respective States. The Plan has to be based on a study on specific problem areas of MCP including details of demographic growth pattern, special problems faced in policing in large urban areas and crime investigation, traffic management, infrastructure available in terms of modern control rooms, digital radio trunking, communication system, PCR van network, etc. Financial assistance is also given to mega cities for procurement of modern and innovative equipment etc. as a part of the Scheme.

4.76 Desert Policing is also a new concept which formed part of the Police Modernisation Scheme from 2005-06. The Desert Policing is primarily meant for the States of Gujarat and Rajasthan to address the problems regarding policing in the large and scattered desert areas. Keeping in view the demographic distribution, problems in investigation, mobility and communication are given emphasis under this Scheme. Expenditure for this is met out of the funds allocated under the MPF Scheme to the respective States.

4.77 During the year 2006-07, Central funds to the tune of Rs.110.43 crore were released for Mega City Policing/Desert Policing. For the year 2007-08, Rs.96 crore has been allocated for MCP/Desert Policing component under the MPF Scheme.

Strengthening of Special Branches

4.78 Keeping in view the crucial role of the Special Branches/ Intelligence set-up in the States and Union territories, particularly in the context of terrorist threats, the Ministry has laid emphasis on earmarking up to 5% of the total funds allocated under MPF towards strengthening of their Special Branches in terms of modern equipment and gadgetry for communication, etc. It has also been emphasised that the States should take action to suitably enhance the manpower in the Special Branches from their own resources. Further, four naxal affected States of Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand and Orissa have been advised to include a specific sub-plan for strengthening of Special branches under the MPF Scheme, 2007-08.

4.79 With a view to ensuring that funds under the scheme can be released at the beginning of the year, it has been decided that the proposals of the States are sent by December 31, so that all approvals can be given before the commencement of the financial year. Action has also been initiated to develop a MIS based system for monitoring the progress of the scheme. Teams of the Ministry have also been visiting the States for reviewing the progress.

The Private Security Agencies (Regulation) Act, 2005

4.80 In public interest and in order to regulate the increasing activities of private security agencies, both Indian and foreign, "The Private Security Agencies (Regulation) Act, 2005" has been notified in the Gazette of India on June 23, 2005. Under this Act, a Controlling Authority is to be appointed by the State Governments for granting licences to agencies for carrying on the business of security agencies and other related matters.

4.81 The Central Government has framed the "Private Security Agencies Central Model Rules, 2006" which were notified in the Gazette of India on

April 26, 2006. These Rules have been sent to the State Governments for their guidance enabling them to frame their own rules, in conformity with the Central Model Rules. The matter is being pursued with the State Governments. They have also been advised to take measures by which the huge pool of private security personnel could be effectively harnessed in the context of the overall security environment.

The Private Detective Agencies (Regulation) Bill, 2007

4.82 The Private Detective Agencies (Regulation) Bill, 2007 was introduced by the Ministry in the Rajya Sabha in August, 2007. The objective of the Bill is to regulate the working of Private Detective Agencies through a system of mandatory licensing so as to ensure that they work within the ambit of legal framework and are accountable to a regulatory authority. The Bill, at present, is being examined by the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Home Affairs.

POLICE REFORMS

4.83 The Ministry of Home Affairs had set up a Review Committee to review the recommendations of the National Police Commission and various other Committees that have examined issues related to Police Reforms. In its report submitted to the Government in 2005, the Committee identified 49 recommendations which were sent to the States/UTs for immediate implementation. The Government have been exhorting the State Governments/UT Administrations for early implementation of the said recommendations on police reforms.

4.84 The Supreme Court of India has also passed a judgement on September 22, 2006 in Writ Petition (Civil) No.310 of 1996 – Prakash Singh and others vs UOI and others on several issues concerning Police reforms. The Court in the said

judgement directed the Union Government and States Governments to set up mechanisms as directed by December 31, 2006 and file affidavits of compliance by January 3 2007. The directions inter-alia were:-

- Constitute a State Security Commission on any of the models recommended by the National Human Right Commission, the Reberio Committee or the Sorabjee Committee;
- Select the Director General of Police of the State from amongst three senior-most officers of the Department empanelled for promotion to that rank by the Union Public Service Commission and once selected, provide him a minimum tenure of at least two years irrespective of his date of superannuation;
- Prescribe minimum tenure of two years to the police officers on operational duties;
- Separate investigating police from law & order police, starting with towns/urban areas having population of ten lakh or more, and gradually extend to smaller towns/urban areas also;
- Set up a Police Establishment Board at the state level for inter-alia deciding all transfers, postings, promotions and other service related matters of officers of and below the rank of Deputy Superintendent of Police; and
- Constitute Police Complaints Authorities at the State and District level for looking into complaints against police officers.

4.85 The Supreme Court has been monitoring the compliance by the States and UTs in the subsequent hearings, the last hearing being on March 12, 2008.

New Police Act

4.86 One of the focal areas of police reforms has been the need for replacement of the existing

Police Act, 1861. Accordingly a Committee of experts was set up by the Ministry on September 20, 2005 to draft a new Police Act. The Committee submitted the draft of a Model Police Act to the Government on October 30, 2006. A copy of the draft Model Police Act has been sent to all State Governments/Union territory Administrations for their consideration and appropriate action. The Ministry reviews the progress of action taken by the States periodically with regard to legislation in the States. However, a view will have to be individually taken by the concerned States.

CRIME SCENARIO IN THE COUNTRY

4.87 Under the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India, 'Police' and 'Public Order' are State subjects and therefore, primarily the State Governments are responsible for prevention, detection, registration and investigation of crime and prosecution of perpetrators of crime within their jurisdiction. However, Ministry of Home Affairs supplements the efforts of the State Governments by providing them financial assistance for modernisation of the State Police Forces in terms of weaponry, communication, equipment, mobility, training and other infrastructure under the Scheme

of Modernisation of State Police Forces. Further, Government of India has been advising the State Governments to give more focused attention to improve the administration of criminal justice system and ensure under the existing laws safety and security of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Women and other vulnerable sections of the society, including children and elder persons from all types of crimes.

4.88 The Ministry is also concerned with collection, compilation and analysis of crime data and monitoring of enforcement of criminal laws pertaining to SCs, STs, women and children etc., whereas the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment and Ministry of Women and Child Development are nodal authorities concerned with their welfare, socio-economic development, policy and legislation (except administration of criminal justice system) to protect their rights and promote their socio-economic status.

4.89 All cognizable crimes reported and investigated by the police are broadly categorized as those falling under the Indian Penal Code (IPC) or the Special and Local Laws (SLL). A comparative statement of crimes registered during the last five years is given below :-

Incidence, rate and population growth during 2002 - 2006								
Year	Incidence		Crime Rate			Population (in lakhs)		% Variation in IPC crime rate as compared to previous year
	IPC	SLL	IPC	SLL	Total	Total	% Growth	
2002	1780330	3746198	169.5	356.6	526.1	10506	2.3	- 1.63
2003	1716120	3778694	160.7	353.7	514.4	10682	1.68	- 5.19
2004	1832015	4196766	168.8	386.6	555.4	10856	1.63	5.04
2005	1822602	3203735*	165.3	290.5	455.8	11028	1.58	- 2.07
2006	1878293	3224167	167.7	287.9	455.7	11198	1.54	1.45

* Variation in SLL crimes due to exclusion of large number of non-cognizable crimes under SLL by Kolkata City which were wrongly reported by them before the year 2005.

Crimes under Indian Penal Code

4.90 A total of 18,78,293 IPC crimes were reported during the year 2006 against 18,22,602 in 2005 recording an increase of 3.1 per cent in 2006. Madhya Pradesh has accounted for 10.4 per cent

of total crimes reported in the country closely followed by Maharashtra (10.2 per cent) and Andhra Pradesh (9.3 per cent). These crimes are further categorised as crimes against body, property, public order and vulnerable sections of society namely, women, children and SCs/STs.

Disposal of Cases - IPC Crimes

Year	Cases Registered	Cases Charge-sheeted	Charge-sheeting Rate	Conviction Rate	Cases Pending Investigation at the End of Year	Cases Pending Trial at the End of Year
2002	1780330	1335792	80.0	40.6	453924	5312853
2003	1716120	1271504	80.1	40.1	471339	5451727
2004	1832015	1317632	79.8	42.5	543056	5636391
2005	1822602	1367268	80.7	42.4	568773	5822752
2006	1878293	1374282	80.6	42.9	637014	5999200

4.91 Cases charge-sheeted have shown an increasing trend during 2004 to 2006. Charge-sheeting rate has been around 80% during 2002 to 2006. Conviction rate has been approximately half of the charge-sheeting rate during this period. Cases

pending investigation at the end of the year have shown an increasing trend during 2002–2006. Similarly, cases pending trial at the end of the year have also shown an increasing trend during this period.

Persons Arrested and their disposal (IPC Cases)

Year	Persons Arrested	Persons Charge-sheeted	Persons Convicted	Persons Pending Investigation at the End of Year	Persons Pending Trial at the End of Year
2002	2748547	2646971	731255	500199	10911952
2003	2510892	2359302	625942	519726	11081689
2004	2660910	2486770	653816	556425	11420173
2005	2621547	2489071	675192	558881	11640286
2006	2653683	2490168	706080	606520	11885654

4.92 Persons arrested during 2002 – 2006 have shown a mixed trend, however it was around 26.5 lakh during 2004 to 2006. Persons charge-sheeted have shown an increasing trend during 2004 to 2006. Persons pending investigation and trial at the end of the year have shown an increasing trend during 2002 to 2006.

Violent Crimes against Body

4.93 Violent crimes against body comprising murder, attempt to commit murder, culpable homicide not amounting to murder, kidnapping and abduction, hurt and death due to negligence in the year 2006 stood at 4,30,498 accounting for 22.9 per cent of total IPC crimes during the year. Crimes against body showed an increase of 0.2 per cent during 2006 over 2005.

Violent Crimes against Property

4.94 A total of 3,92,352 violent crimes against property comprising dacoity, preparation and assembly for dacoity, robbery, burglary and theft were recorded during the year 2006 as compared to 3,88,867 crimes during 2005, showing a marginal increase of 0.9 per cent. The share of these crimes to total IPC crimes at the national level was 20.9 per cent during the year.

Violent Crimes against Public Order

4.95 A total of 65,121 violent crimes against public order comprising riots and arson were reported during the year 2006 as compared to 64,686 crimes in 2005, showing an increase of 0.7 per cent.

Crimes under Special and Local Laws (SLL)

4.96 A total of 32,24,167 crimes under various Special and Local Laws were reported during the year 2006 as against 32,03,735 crimes during 2005, showing a marginal increase of 0.6 per cent in 2006.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM

4.97 The Ministry of Home Affairs is concerned with the legislative aspects of the Indian Penal Code (IPC), 1860 and the Criminal Procedure Code (Cr.P.C.), 1973; petitions for mercy, remission and pardon made to the President of India under article 72 of the Constitution of India; sanction for prosecution under section 188 of Cr.P.C., 1973 and withdrawal of cases under section 321 of Cr.P.C., 1973.

The Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment) Bill, 2006

4.98 On the basis of the recommendations of the Law Commission in its 154th, 177th and 178th Reports, a Bill namely the Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment) Bill, 2006 was introduced in the Rajya Sabha on August 23, 2006 proposing to amend various provisions of the Cr.P.C., 1973. Highlights of the Bill to amend the Cr.P.C. are as follows:

- Changes in the law relating to arrest
- Provisions regarding summons cases/trials
- Compounding of Offences (procedural simplification)
- Victimology
- Protection of Women
- Adjournments – avoidance of
- Witnesses turning hostile – measures to curb
- Use of Modern Technology
- Inquiry and trial of persons of unsound mind
- Bail Bond (in case of acquittals)

4.99 The Bill was examined by the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Home Affairs and the Committee has submitted its report. The report is being examined for further necessary action.

172nd Report of the Law Commission on 'Review of Rape Laws'

4.100 The Law Commission in its 172nd Report has recommended changes for widening the scope

of the offence in section 375 of IPC and to make it gender neutral. Various other changes have been recommended in sections 376 and 376A to 376D of IPC and insertion of a new section 376E of IPC dealing with unlawful sexual contact, deletion of section 377 of IPC and enhancement of punishment in section 509 of IPC. The Commission has also recommended changes in the Cr.P.C., 1973 and the Indian Evidence Act, 1872.

4.101 The Report was referred to the State Governments for seeking their views, which have since been received in most cases, and are being examined and processed for further action. In the meantime the report of the National Commission for Women for the year 2004-05, suggesting a number of measures on rape laws, has also been received. The recommendations have been forwarded to the State Governments for their views.

Report of the Committee on Reforms of Criminal Justice System

4.102 The Committee on Reforms of Criminal Justice System set up under the chairmanship of Dr. (Justice) V.S. Malimath, former Chief Justice of Karnataka and Kerala High Courts, submitted its report to the Government on April 21, 2003. The Committee made 158 recommendations. The Report has been referred to the State Governments/UT Administrations requesting them for their views. Views of only some of the States/UTs have been received. The matter is being followed up.

Draft National Policy on Criminal Justice System

4.103 In the meanwhile, a Committee constituted under the chairmanship of Prof. N.R. Madhava Menon to draft a National Policy Paper on Criminal Justice System has submitted its report to the Government on August 1, 2007. Since the Criminal Law and Criminal Procedure are in the Concurrent List of the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of

India, the report has been referred to State Governments/UT Administrations for their views/comments. After receipt of their comments, further action will be taken.

Mercy Petitions under Article 72 of the Constitution of India

4.104 28 cases in respect of mercy petitions from condemned prisoners have been received in the Ministry since 1997 for commutation of death sentence. 25 cases have been processed in the Ministry and placed before the President for taking a decision.

4.105 29 petitions for remission of sentence/pardon from persons sentenced under various Central Laws are under process in this Ministry. 6 cases have been disposed of till March 17, 2008 in which the remission of sentence has been granted in 4 cases.

Sanction for Prosecution u/s 188 of Cr.P.C., 1973

4.106 94 requests for sanction of the Central Government for prosecution under section 188 of Cr.P.C., 1973 in respect of Indian citizens accused of committing offences abroad/overseas are under process in this Ministry. Sanction of the Central Government for prosecution has been granted in 35 cases till March 17, 2008.

Withdrawal of cases u/s 321 of Cr.P.C., 1973

4.107 34 requests from various State Governments for permission of the Central Government under section 321 of Cr.P.C. 1973 for withdrawal of prosecution of the cases involving provisions of various central laws are under process in this Ministry. 3 cases have been disposed till March 17, 2008.

STATE LEGISLATIONS

4.108 The Ministry of Home Affairs is the nodal Ministry for processing legislative proposals (under

Concurrent List in the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution) received from the State Governments either for prior approval of the Government or for obtaining the assent of the President. Bills under article 201 of the Constitution, Bills for previous sanction under proviso to article 304(b) of the Constitution, Ordinances under proviso to Clause 1 of article 213 of the Constitution, and Regulations for Scheduled Areas (Fifth Schedule to the Constitution) fall in this category.

4.109 In addition, Bills which are required to be reserved for consideration of the President, are sometimes sent by the State Governments for approval of the Central Government, before their introduction in the State Legislatures. Though, it is not a constitutional requirement, this administrative step helps in prior scrutiny of the draft legislation before President's assent is obtained.

4.110 The legislative proposals are examined in consultation with the concerned Ministries/ Departments of the Government of India. The Union Government favours expeditious approval of these legislative proposals and accordingly, time limits have been prescribed for their examination by the concerned Ministries/Departments.

4.111 The position is reviewed periodically through meetings with the Union Ministries and the concerned State Governments to facilitate early clearance of Bills.

Proposals received and finalised

4.112 During the period from April 1, 2007 to March 17, 2008, the Ministry of Home Affairs received 51 proposals for approval/assent of the Government of India/President of India. The number of proposals finalised during this period is as follows:-

Sl.No.	Particulars	Number
I	Bills for the consideration and assent of the President under article 201 of the Constitution:	
	(i) Bills assented to by the President	25
	(ii) Bills returned to the State Government with Message from President	06
	(iii) Bill withdrawn by State Governments	02
II	Ordinances for Previous instructions of the President under article 213 (1) of the Constitution:	
	(i) Instructions of the President conveyed	03
	(ii) Ordinances closed	03
	(iii) Refused	01
III	Bills for previous sanctions of the President under article 304 (b) of the Constitution:	
	(i) Previous sanction of the President conveyed	01
IV	Bills for approval of the Government of India before its introduction in the State Legislature:	
	(i) Approval granted	12
	(ii) Bills closed	04
	(iii) Refused	01
	Total	58

* This also includes Legislative proposals received before April 1, 2007.
