

OPENING STATEMENT OF THE HOME MINISTER AT THE PRESS
CONFERENCE ON DECEMBER 1, 2009

As I complete one year as Home Minister, I am happy to present the 12th monthly report of the Ministry of Home Affairs. This is for the month of November 2009.

2. The highlight of the month was the commencement of the electoral process in Jharkhand. The Legislative Assembly was dissolved on November 1, 2009 and a five-phase election schedule was announced by the CEC. 225 Coys of CPMFs and 85 Coys of various SAPs/IR Bns/Border Wing Home Guards have been deployed in Jharkhand to ensure free and fair elections. The CPI (Maoist) has called for a boycott of the elections and has unleashed violence, mostly targeted at school buildings that will house polling stations. The most effective answer that the people of Jharkhand can give to the CPI (Maoist) is to turn out in large numbers and elect candidates of their choice.

3. Another important event was the tabling of the Liberhan Ayodhya Commission of Inquiry Report and the ATR in Parliament on November 24, 2009.

4. I visited Deoband, Uttar Pradesh on November 3, 2009 and addressed the Annual Conference of the Jamiat Ulema e Hind.

5. I visited Jammu on November 4, 2009 in order to make an assessment of the implementation of the rehabilitation package for Kashmiri Pandits and of the general security situation. I am happy to say that two proposals for shooting of films in J&K were approved and permission granted to the producers. The European Union's Troika Mission visited that State and declared that "Kashmir is an integral part of India."

6. I visited Jaipur on November 15, 2009 to attend the Twentieth All India Forensic Science Conference. It is my intention to pay special attention to Forensic Science Laboratories in the year 2010.

7. I visited Mumbai on November 26, 2009 and participated in a number of events in remembrance of the victims of terror.

8. On November 29, 2009, Ministry of Home Affairs sponsored a programme at the India Gate Lawns titled "Nation in solidarity against terror." It was telecast live on many channels and I thank the media, especially the TV channels, for their support.

Internal Security

9. Two United Liberation Front of Assam (ULFA) leaders, namely, Chitraban Hazarika and Shashadhar Chowdhury, surrendered to the BSF in Tripura on the India-Bangladesh border area during the intervening night of November 4/5, 2009.

CPMFs

10. Approval has been granted for:

- 202 posts for a Field Intelligence Unit for Assam Rifles
- acquisition of 600 acres of land for the NSG Regional Centre at Hyderabad
- 781 additional posts for upgradation of six CISF Regional Training Centres
- the appointment of 326 Assistant Commandants for all CPMFs on the basis of the results announced by the CPF (AC) Exam-2008.
- the appointment of 232 doctors for all CPMFs on the basis of results announced by the Medical Officers Selection Board (MOSB)-2008.

- the conversion of 10 CRPF battalions into Law & Order battalions on the lines of the Rapid Action Force.
- 199 posts in CISF for providing security to the National Police Academy, Hyderabad.
- The KLP of the newly sanctioned Mahila Battalion of CRPF will be at Nagpur.

11. The Interim Project Feasibility Report for the CPMF Housing Project to be taken up on a Public Private Partnership (PPP) basis by the MHA has been received from the consultant, CRISIL. A stakeholders' conference was held on November 20, 2009 in which discussions were held with the representatives of the developers and bankers.

12. Sanctions amounting to Rs. 117.19 crore were issued during the month for various infrastructure works of the CPMFs as follows:

CRPF	-	Rs. 43.65 crore
SSB	-	Rs. 41.65 crore
CISF	-	Rs. 22.18 crore
AR	-	Rs. 09.71 crore

13. Sanctions amounting to Rs. 46.92 crore were issued during the month for acquisition of land for various establishments of the CPMFs as follows:

NSG	-	Rs. 36.00 crore
CRPF	-	Rs. 10.57 crore
ITBP	-	Rs. 0.35 crore

Border and Coastal Security

14. On the India-Bangladesh border, 25 kms of fencing and 40 kms of new roads were completed in the month of November 2009. Besides, 40 kms of fencing was replaced. Erection of poles for floodlighting works was completed in a length of 66 kms.

15. On the India-China border, 201 kms of roads are in various stages of construction. 4.6 kms of formation works were completed in the month of November. Forest clearances were obtained for the following four roads:

- (i) Pulum Sumda (PDA) – Sumla in Uttarakhand
- (ii) Pulum Sumda (PDA) – Mendi in Uttarakhand
- (iii) Sonam – Pulum Sumda (PDA) in Uttarakhand
- (iv) Jung – Mago – Chuna in Arunachal Pradesh

16. Under the Border Area Development Programme (BAPD), Annual Action Plans have been received from 17 States. The first instalment amounting to Rs. 369.62 crore was released to 15 States, viz., Assam, Bihar, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, J&K, Nagaland, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tripura, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal.

17. M/s. GSL Goa and M/s. GRSE, Kolkata are required to supply 84 boats for coastal patrolling and security up to March 2010. 50 boats were delivered upto October, 2009, and 6 more boats were delivered in November, taking the total number of boats delivered to 56. The suppliers are still behind schedule and every effort will be made to impress upon the suppliers the need to deliver all 84 boats by March 2010.

National Investigation Agency

18. The National Investigation Agency (NIA) filed a charge sheet in the case relating to the North Cachar Hills Autonomous Council on November 17, 2009 and in the case relating to seizure of FICN in Mumbai on November 6, 2009. The case relating to David Coleman Headley, Tawahhur Hussain Rana and others was entrusted to the NIA for investigation.

Immigration

19. SFC has approved the Detailed Project Report for Revamp of the Foreigners Division of MHA. The Project is to be implemented over a period of 3 years at an estimated cost of Rs. 19.73 crore.

Police Modernisation

20. Under the Modernisation of Police Forces (MPF) Scheme the following have been sanctioned:

- 4 All Terrain Vehicles at a cost of Rs. 7.95 crore for the BSF.
- 10,147 assault rifles at a cost of Rs. 144 crore for the CRPF.
- 1,915 Glock-17 pistols for the CRPF, ITBP, NPA, Delhi Police and Himachal Pradesh Police.

21. The Centre-State MoU for the CCTNS project has been signed by all 35 States/UTs. An amount of Rs. 42.38 crore has been released to 20 States.

Census 2011 and National Population Register (NPR)

22. Work is in progress on the National Population Register (NPR). Direct data collection for the National Population Register (NPR) is in progress in the coastal villages of Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Kerala, Orissa, Puducherry, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal, Maharashtra, Karnataka and Andaman & Nicobar Islands. The biographical details of more than 37 lakh residents and biometric details of more than 8 lakh residents have been recorded.

23. As regards Census 2011, field survey work for the preparation of geo-referenced enumeration blocks was completed in 1202 wards out of 2018 wards in 33 capital cities.

24. Notification amending the Citizenship (Registration of Citizens and issue of National Identity Cards) Rules, 2003 was issued on November 9, 2009 for preparation of National Register of Citizens (NRC), 1951 in Assam.

States and UTs

25. Under the Police Modernisation Scheme, Rs. 81.60 crore was released on November 19, 2009 to Delhi Police for FY 2009-10.

26. Notification for promotion of DANIPS officers of 1996 to 2004 batches to Junior Administrative Grade-I was issued on November 23, 2009.

The IPS cadre

27. The annual batch-size of the IPS was fixed at 130 starting from the Civil Services Examination - 2008. Offers of appointment to 125 successful candidates were issued, with the remaining 5 being under process. Given the shortage of IPS officers at the SP-level in most State cadres and taking into account the average attrition rate, it was decided that from the Civil Services Examination – 2009 onwards, the annual batch-size would be increased from 130 to 150.

28. Of the 26 ADGP posts at the Centre, 9 posts are vacant and 7 posts are likely to fall vacant due to superannuation and promotion by 31 March, 2010. Against 16 vacancies, only one officer is available on the offer list (out of the list of 32 ADGP-empanelled officers). In order to increase the size of the pool of available officers, 61 IPS officers of the 1977 and earlier batches were empanelled on November 21, 2009 to hold ADGP-level posts.

Civil Defence

29. A Rs. 100 crore scheme for revamping the Civil Defence set-up in India was approved for the XIth Five Year Plan. The existing Scheme envisages upgradation of training institutes, equipment purchase and a pilot project for involving Civil Defence in Internal Security and law and order management. Of the Rs. 15 crore sanctioned for this year, Rs. 11.87 crore was released on November 15, 2009 to the concerned State Governments.

30. 6,271 new Civil Defence volunteers were enrolled and 4,220 inactive and unfit volunteers weeded out.

Other initiatives

31. The death sentence of the condemned prisoner R. Govindasamy was commuted to life imprisonment under Article 72 of the Constitution of India.

He will remain in prison for the remainder of his natural life. The decision was conveyed to the Government of Tamil Nadu on November 23, 2009.

32. The scheme for strengthening of Special Branches of the State Police has been finalized.

33. The Recruitment Rules for Group 'C' posts in the NIA have been framed and notified.

34. Following the resignation of the incumbent, Mr. Justice HS Brar retired Judge of the Punjab & Haryana High Court, was appointed as the Chief Commissioner, Gurdwara Elections.

35. The Governing Council of the National Foundation for Communal Harmony (NFCH) was reconstituted.

New Governors, nominees to Rajya Sabha

36. The following transfer/appointments of Governors were notified.

- Dr. (Smt.) Kamla, Governor of Tripura was transferred and appointed as Governor of Gujarat for the remainder of her term.
- Dr. DY Patil was appointed as Governor of Tripura
- Shri JB Patnaik was appointed as Governor of Assam.

37. The following nominations to the Rajya Sabha were notified:

- Dr. Ashok Sekhar Ganguly
- Shri HK Dua
