GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 205

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 3RD FEBRUARY, 2021/ MAGHA 14, 1942 (SAKA)

LATHICHARGE AGAINST PROTESTING FARMERS

205. DR. AMEE YAJNIK:
SHRI ANAND SHARMA:
SHRI NEERAJ DANGI:
SMT. AMBIKA SONI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any force including tear Gas, lathicharge and water cannons were employed against protesting farmers at inter-State borders of Delhi by police;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether cases have been registered against protesting farmers or farmer groups during the course of the protests as of January 15, 2021; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY)

(a) to (d) : "Public Order' and 'Police' are State subjects as per the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India. The responsibilities of maintaining law and order, including investigation, registration/ prosecution of crimes, conviction of accused, protection of life and property etc. rest primarily with the respective State Governments.

In so far as NCT of Delhi is concerned, Delhi Police has informed that at Delhi border, large convoys of protesting farmers in tractor trolleys tried to furiously force their way and go past police barricades to enter Delhi to

mark their protest against the recently enacted 'Farm Laws'. They aggressively resorted to rioting, damage to Government property and used criminal force to deter public servants from discharge of their duty, thereby inflicting injuries to the on-duty police personnel. Moreover, social distancing was not followed by the farmers/protestors and they gathered in large numbers without face masks amid Covid-19 pandemic. The farmers' actions left the Delhi Police with no option but to use tear gas, water cannons and mild force to control the crowd.

*****