GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 860

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 14^{TH} DECEMBER, 2022/ AGRAHAYANA 23, 1944 (SAKA)

FUNCTIONING OF NIA

860 SHRI VAIKO:

SHRI M. SHANMUGAM:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of cases being handled by National Investigation Agency (NIA) at present, including the Coimbatore blast;
- (b) whether the cases have increased over the years and if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether there is an allegation that NIA is targeting certain communities;
- (d) if so, efforts made by the agency to handle the cases without any bias; and
- (e) in how many cases, the investigations done by NIA stood by the court judgement and how many cases have ended in acquittal, in the last three years, details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI NITYANAND RAI)

- (a) As on 02/12/2022, National Investigation Agency has registered 497 cases including Coimbatore blast case.
- (b) The reason for increase in cases of the National Investigation Agency over the years is due to enhanced capacity of NIA with establishment of

new Branch Offices, expansion of its mandate in 2019 by inclusion of certain offences related to human trafficking, manufacture or sale of prohibited arms, cyber-terrorism and the Explosives Substances Act, 1908 in the Schedule of National Investigation Agency Act, 2008.

(c) to (e) No, Sir. National Investigation Agency is mandated to investigate and prosecute offences of grave nature affecting the sovereignty, security and integrity of India, security of State, friendly relations with foreign States, matters relating to international treaties, etc., as specified in its Schedule. Cases having gravity including national/international implications are entrusted to NIA without any bias or prejudice. Fairness and transparency in investigations by the NIA is evident from the fact that from the year 2019 to 2022 (upto 02.12.2022), Judgment has been pronounced in 67 cases, out of which, conviction has been obtained in 65 cases and 02 cases have ended in acquittal.
