

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
HOME AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2491

ANSWERED ON:07.08.2001

AMARNATH YATRA

ANANTA NAYAK;CHANDRA NATH SINGH;CHANDRESH PATEL KORDIA;PRABHUNATH SINGH;SADASHIVRAO DADOBA  
MANDLIK

**Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government have failed to provide security to Amarnath pilgrims;
- (b) if so, the number of pilgrims killed/injured in the recent incident;
- (c) the details of security arrangements made by the Government for the safe and secure journey of Amarnath pilgrims and quantum of amount spent thereon;
- (d) whether the security forces have failed to identify/nab the militants responsible for the incident;
- (e) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard;
- (f) whether there is any proposal to distribute any relief money to the members of bereaved family; and
- (g) if not, the reasons therefor ?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS ( CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO )

(a) to (c): No, Sir. The security arrangements for the Amarnath Yatra were strengthened this year in the light of past experience and inputs regarding the designs of the terrorists with the arrangements having been planned out after a series of high-level meetings. The quantum of security forces deployed for Yatra security this time was higher than last year. The functional and territorial jurisdictions and tasks of various forces and units as regards area domination and presence of the heights along the route, road opening parties (RoPs), escort duty, camp security, access control and manning of check posts, anti-sabotage checks etc. had been fixed in advance by the State Government. For the better coordination and planning of security arrangements for the Yatra 2001, an apex body was formed by State Government consisting of all members of the Core Group of UHQ at Srinagar with Chief Executive Officer, Shrine Board and concerned DIGs and Brigadiers as special invitees. Security coordination groups for the Yatra had also been constituted at lower levels.

In an incident of hurling of 2 grenades followed by firing by a terrorist near Sheshnag camp of Amarnath Ji Yatra on 21.7.2001, 6 pilgrims were killed and 8 were injured.

(d) & (e): No, Sir. The Security Forces shot down the terrorist.

(f) & (g): Ex-gratia relief of Rs. 1.00 lakh to next of kin's (NOK's) of each deceased civilians has been sanctioned by the State Government as per norms. This amount is reimbursed to the State Government under Security Related Expenditure Grants from MHA.