GOVERNMENT OF INDIA HOME AFFAIRS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3162 ANSWERED ON:23.12.2003 GUIDELINES FOR MILITANCY AND PMF FOR OBSERVING HUMAN RIGHTS SURESH KURUP

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any complaint on alleged molestation and harassment of girl students by the Army in Shopian of Kashmir has been lodged with National Human Rights Commission;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether NHRC has issued notice to the concerned authorities;

(d) if so, the details in this regard and status of the complaint with NHRC;

(e) whether NHRC or Supreme Court has issued any guidelines to Military and Para Military Forces to observe the Human Rights principle; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI)

(a) to (d): Yes, Sir. The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) had received a complaint alleging molestation and harassment of students of Shopian Girls Higher Secondary School and Government College, Shopian District, South Kashmir by Army Jawans camping at Chaudhary Gund. Based on this complaint, the Commission has called for a report from the Ministry of Defence, Government of India and Government of Jammu & Kashmir.

(e) & (f): No specific guidelines have been issued by the NHRC. However, Government have issued instructions from time to time to Para-Military Forces, to ensure that they conduct themselves in a humane manner and that the alleged cases of human rights violation are taken serious note of, inquiries made promptly and firm action taken against those found guilty. The Central Para-Military Forces have made teaching and training of human rights an integral and essential part of the training.