

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
DEFENCE  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:381  
ANSWERED ON:20.04.2000  
PAK SHELLING IN BORDER AREAS  
GANGASANDRA SIDDAPPA BASAVARAJ;VILAS BABURAO MUTTEMWAR

**Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether Pakistani troops resorted to shelling in the border town of Uri in North Kashmir on March 17, 2000;
- (b) if so, the details of places where Pakistani forces fired on various points of Line of Control during the recent past;
- (c) the number of casualties amongst civilians and the jawans of Indian Forces;
- (d) the details of compensation paid to the victims;
- (e) the steps being taken by the Government to check such incidents and to rehabilitate and protect the wards of deceased;
- (f) whether any attempt to cut-off Jammu- Kashmir-Srinagar Highway has also been made by the Pak militants; and
- (g) if so, the reaction of the Indian Forces thereto?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES)

(a) to (g): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (g) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 381 FOR 20.4.2000.

Firing along the Line of Control is a regular phenomenon. Pakistan resorts to unprovoked firing to abet infiltration of mercenaries, inflict casualties on our troops and portray J&K as a flash point to the international community. Pakistani troops, however, did not resort to shelling in the border town of Uri in North Kashmir on 17th March 2000.

The number of incidents of firing for the period from 01 January 2000 to 31 March 2000 are as under :-

(a)	Actual Ground Position	91
	Line (AGPL i.e. Siachen Sector)	
(b)	Line of Control (LOC)	1003
	(Point Sangam to Point NJ 9842)	
(c)	International Border (IB)	90
	(Point Sangam Southwards)	
	Total	1184

During the period from 1 January 2000 to 31 March 2000 there were 22 casualties of the army, including an officer.

Figures relating to civilian casualties on account of Pakistani firing are being obtained from the State Government.

Compensation is paid to the next-of-kin of the deceased army personnel in accordance with the provisions of Liberalised Pension Scheme and ex- gratia payments. As regards the civilian casualties, the J&K Government has announced a scheme, according to which ex-gratia relief of Rs. 1 lakh is paid to the Next-of-Kin of each person killed and 50% (subject to a ceiling of Rs.1 lakh) per case is paid in cases of damage to immovable property. There is also a provision for issue of monthly ration and monetary assistance at the specified rates some of which are available upto May, 2000.

No attempt to cut off the said Highway has been made by the militants.

Constant vigil is maintained and appropriate response is given by our troops to the unprovoked firing by Pakistani troops.