GOVERNMENT OF INDIA HOME AFFAIRS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:259 ANSWERED ON:26.07.2005 REPAIR OF BRIDGE IN PAHALGAM IN KASHMIR Singh Kunwar Rewati Raman

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a bridge on the route of the holy Amarnath Yatra was blown up by militants this year;
- (b) if so, whether the same has since been repaired/reconstructed to facilitate pilgrim's yatra;
- (c) if not, the time by when it is likely to be repaired; and
- (d) the number of militant activities reported during current Amarnath Yatra?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL)

- (a) to (c): As per the available reports, on May 24, 2005, an improvised Explosive Device (IED) blast took place under the bridge at Sadoopadaw, Police Station Pahalgam, Anantnag (Jammu and Kashmir) and due to this blast an iron bridge on Lidder river got damaged. The bridge was, however, repaired within seven days.
- (d): During current Amarnath Yatra, 192 terrorist related incidents have taken place from 15 June 2005 to 15 July 2005 in the State of Jammu and Kashmir.