

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2715
ANSWERED ON:17.08.2004
RECRUITMENT OF KASHMIRI YOUTHS BY MILITANTS
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Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Pak based militants are recruiting young boys to reinforce base in J & K as reported in the Hindustan Times dated August 02, 2004;
- (b) if so, the facts and the details thereof;
- (c) the number of such cases reported during 2003-2004 till date; and
- (d) the action taken to check activities of militants?

Answer

HOME MINISTER (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL)

(a)&(b): Yes, Sir. The Government is aware of the news item.

Such youths are enticed to terrorist fold after being indoctrinated or given allurements by the over ground workers of terrorist outfits. Unemployed youths mostly hailing from poor/down-trodden families are easy victims to such machinations. Such youths are generally given elementary training in subversive activities locally and are initially employed to hurl grenades and act as guides to foreign mercenaries. The other main factor such recruitments is to try and give more 'local colour' to ongoing terrorist violence sponsored from across.

(c): Estimates indicate that 276 youths were recruited in the year 2003 and during 2004 (till August 10), 113 youths have been recruited.

(d): Various steps including the following have been taken to check such activities of the terrorists:-

(i) The J&K police and Security forces have all along been targeting over ground support structure of terrorists and Anti-National Elements (ANEs) involved in such activities and taking appropriate actions against them under law.

(ii) Effective vigil over the routes along the LoC inaccessible areas thereby intercepting such youths before they cross over LoC for obtaining training.

(iii) Collecting Intelligence regarding such activities and taking preventive action on the basis of inputs.

(iv) Mass contact programme by SFs/J&K police with people living in isolated pocket to discourage such tendencies.

(v) Enhancing economic and developmental policies to give better avenues for employment.