

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:172
ANSWERED ON:25.07.2006
BULLET PROOFING OF AYODHYA TEMPLE
Owaisi Shri Asaduddin;Satheedevi Smt. P.

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Supreme Court in an earlier direction had ordered status quo should be maintained at Ayodhya at the site of Babri Masjid till a final judgement comes out;
- (b) if so, whether security agencies of UP Government and Union Government propose to do Bullet Proofing of Ayodhya as reported in the Times of India dated July 04, 2006;
- (c) if so, the circumstances which necessitated the Union Government to move SC for this step;
- (d) the present position of the decision taken by the Government; and
- (e) the steps taken or being taken by the Government to ensure that status quo is maintained at the disputed site till a final judgement is made by Supreme Court?

Answer

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

(a): Yes Sir. The Supreme Court in Writ Petition No.162 of 2002 vide its order dated the 31.3.2003 had directed that `no part of the acquired land either disputed or undisputed can be handed over by the Government to any one, and the same shall be retained by the Government till the disposal of this Writ Petition nor shall any part of this land be permitted to be occupied or used for any religious purpose or in connection therewith`

(b) & (c): On July,2005, five persons attacked Ram Janam Bhoomi - Babri Masjid Complex at Ayodhya which was repulsed by security forces. The security arrangements of religious complexes in U.P.were subsequently jointly reviewed by the Central and State Government agencies and it was decided to take suitable measures to strengthen the security measures including those at Ayodhya.

(d)& (e): Based on proposals received from U.P.Government, one of the works relates to the execution of temporary structure of steel (bullet proofing) including its air conditioning. This work is, however yet to start. An application was filed in the Hon`ble Supreme Court praying to permit the Applicant to carry out civil works and equipments costing Rs.7.22 crores and the orders of the Supreme Court on this application are yet to be received. No change in the status quo of the complex is intended to be done and status quo is being fully maintained. The Government will proceed with the execution of works only as per the orders of Supreme Court as and when received.