

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3343
ANSWERED ON:15.04.2008
REVIVAL OF MILITANCY IN PUNJAB
Sai Shri Nand Kumar

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether separatist organisations are making efforts to revive militancy in Punjab as reported in the `Hindustan` dated March 8, 2008;
- (b) if so, the facts and the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) the details of terrorist activities reported in Punjab during 2007-08 so far; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Union Government to check the revival of militancy in Punjab?

Answer

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

(a)&(b): The Government is aware of the efforts being made by certain Groups based abroad to revive extremism in Punjab and the Government have taken appropriate measures to contain such attempts.

(c): As per available information, there has been one major incident of terrorism in Punjab, when a bomb blast took place in Shingar Cinema Hall on October, 14. 2007 in Ludhiana, in which six persons were killed and 38 injured. 3 persons are reported to have been arrested, so far, in this case.

(d): The Government has adopted an integrated approach to counter such attempts which, inter- alia, include sustained vigilance along the borders, strengthening of the mechanisms for intelligence gathering and sharing; modernization and upgradation of police and security forces with advanced/sophisticated weapons surveillance and communication equipment, training of police officials etc. A close and continuous watch is maintained on the activities of various groups known to have been engaged in trying to foment terrorist activities in Punjab. Various such groups, Viz. Babbar Khalsa International, International Sikh Youth Federation, Khalistan Commando Force and Khalistan Zindabad Force have also been banned under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Amendment Act, 2004.