

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:103
ANSWERED ON:16.11.2010
SECURITY TO RELIGIOUS PLACES
Thomas Shri P. T.

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the religious/pilgrim places are vulnerable to terrorist attacks;
- (b) whether the Government has received inputs in the recent past regarding renewed terrorist threats to religious/pilgrim places;
- (c) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to beef up security to such places of worship;and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN)

(a) to (e): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.103 DATED 16.11.2010.

(a) to (e): The Government regularly receives inputs from the Central Security Agencies about terrorist/militant activities which pose threats to religious/pilgrim places, as also inputs based on periodic security reviews of places of religious importance, located in various States.

At present, no specific input is available indicating threats to religious/pilgrim places. However, well known places of religious importance face a generic threat from terrorist groups as well as anti-national elements.

Based on inputs received about threats to religious places, advisories are issued/information forwarded immediately to the concerned State Governments/Union Territory (UT) Administrations in whose jurisdiction these places lie, for taking appropriate measures, as security to these places primarily rests with the State Governments/ UT Administrations.

Assistance is also provided by the Union Government for strengthening the security arrangements by deployment of Central Para-Military Forces (CPMFs) as and when requested by the State/ UTs. Further, requests from State Governments/ UT Administrations for additional deployment of CPMFs on occasions such as Kumbh Mela, Jagannath Rath Yatra, Annual Urs at Ajmer etc, are also considered by the Government and additional forces are provided to the concerned State Governments/ UT Administrations for enhanced security cover to these religious/pilgrim places.