

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:369

ANSWERED ON:29.07.2009

INCIDENTS OF ATTACKS ON INDIAN NATIONALS IN AFGHANISTAN

Adityanath Shri Yogi;Ramasubbu Shri S.

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a large number of Indian nationals were killed or injured in terrorist attacks reportedly by Taliban militants in Afghanistan;
- (b) if so, the details of such incidents occurred during the last three years;
- (c) whether the Government has taken up the matter with the Afghanistan authorities;
- (d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the action taken by the Afghanistan authorities thereon; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to ensure safety and security of the Indians working in Afghanistan?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI S.M. KRISHNA)

(a) & (b) There have been 13 fatal Indian casualties resulting from terrorist related incidents in Afghanistan since November 2005, the last being in February, 2009.

(c) & (d) Yes, Sir. The Afghan Government has been fully supportive of our concerns regarding the safety and security of Indian nationals in Afghanistan and has taken necessary precautionary and preventive measures from time to time, including deployment of security personnel to thwart terrorist attacks.

(e) The Embassy of India sends Security Advisories to Indian nationals in Afghanistan on a regular basis, especially when it receives information concerning impending threats, advising them to take security precautions and to maintain extra vigil. In addition, for projects being undertaken under Government of India's assistance programmes, effective and regular liaison is maintained with the concerned agencies of the Afghan government, who provide the requisite security and support to the project personnel in coordination with the provincial authorities.