

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2417

ANSWERED ON:16.08.2011

THREATS FROM TERRORIST ORGANISATIONS

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Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is an apprehension about a large number of terrorist strike in various parts of the country by certain foreign terrorists organisations;
- (b) if so, the details of concrete strategy being formulated including strengthening domestic intelligence services by the Government to deal with terrorist activities in the country;
- (c) whether the terrorists are carrying out their agenda successfully in the country;
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the corrective measures being taken by the Government to counter the same?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI JITENDRA SINGH)

(a) to (e): The Central Intelligence and Security agencies are aware of the threats posed by the terrorist elements and their nefarious designs including to target major Indian cities to cause mass casualties.

Government is committed to combat terrorism, extremism and separatism in all its forms and manifestations as no cause, genuine or imaginary can justify terrorism or violence. The Government continues to be alert to these threats and recalibrates its measures to combat terrorism.

In order to deal with the terrorism, Government has taken various measures which inter-alia, include establishment of NSG hubs at Chennai, Kolkata, Hyderabad and Mumbai; empowerment of DG, NSG to requisition aircraft for movement of NSG personnel in the event of any emergency; strengthening and re-organizing of Multi-Agency Centre to enable it to function on 24x7 basis for real time collation and sharing of intelligence with other intelligence and security agencies; tighter immigration control; augmenting the strength of Central Armed Para Military Forces; effective border management through round the clock surveillance & patrolling on the borders; establishment of observation posts, border fencing, flood lighting, deployment of modern and hi-tech surveillance equipment; up-gradation of Intelligence setup; and coastal security. The Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967 has been amended and notified in 2008 to strengthen the punitive measures to combat terrorism. The National Investigation Agency has been constituted under the National Investigation Agency Act, 2008 to investigate and prosecute offences under the Acts specified in the Schedule. As a part of steps to counter terrorists threats, the National Intelligence Grid (NATGRID) has been created.

The Prevention of Money Laundering Act has been amended in 2009 to inter alia, include certain offences under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, as predicate offence.

The issue of terrorism has been raised at various multilateral and bilateral fora including in the HS Level bilateral talks and in the Interior/Home Ministers meeting of SAARC. India is a signatory to all the 13 United Nations conventions and protocols dealing with international terrorism. In July 2010 India has also signed MOU with USA to Counter Terrorism. Further, in October 2010, India has acquired membership of Financial Action Task Force (FATF) which is an Inter-governmental body and whose purpose is the development and promotion of national and international policies to combat money laundering and terrorist financing.