GOVERNMENT OF INDIA HOME AFFAIRS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4298 ANSWERED ON:20.12.2011 FIGHT AGAINST TERRORISM

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Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government mechanism is well equipped/prepared to fight against terrorism in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has formulated any concrete plan to control terrorist/separatists activities;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether the Government grants financial aid to the families of the deceased killed in the terrorist activities; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

- (a) and (b): Yes, Madam. Central Intelligence Agencies maintain a strict vigil on the activities of terrorism. Multi Agency Centre (MAC) has been set up which functions on 24x7 basis for real time collation and sharing of intelligence with other intelligence and security agencies. Intelligence inputs are also shared with the concerned States through the established mechanism which ensures close co-ordination and sharing of intelligence and seamless flow of information between the State and the Central Security and law enforcement agency. This has resulted in busting of terrorists modules and a number of possible terrorists attacks have been averted.
- (c) and (d): Govt. is committed to combat terrorism, extremism and separatism in all its forms and manifestations as no causes, genuine or imaginary can justify terrorism or violence. In order to deal with the menace of extremism and terrorism the Government has taken various measures which inter-alia, include augmenting the strength of Central Armed Police Forces; amendment to the CISF Act to enable deployment of CISF in joint venture of private industrial undertakings; 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; 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; upgradation 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.

Further the Government continues to raise the issues of Cross-Border Terrorism in all its aspects including its financing at various multi-lateral and bilateral fora and also at the multi-level bi-lateral interactions.

(e) and (f): A Central Scheme for financial assistance to victims of terrorists /communal violence is in operation with effect from 1.4.2008. The scheme has been extended to cover civilian victims of Naxal violence with effect from 22.6.2009. Under this scheme, a sum of Rs.3 lakhs is provided to the kin of the civilians who are either killed or have become permanently incapacitated on the recommendation of the concerned State Govts.