

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:4

ANSWERED ON:13.03.2012

SETTING UP OF NCTC

Mahto Shri Baidyanath Prasad;Verma Smt. Usha

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is considering a proposal to establish a National Counter Terrorism Centre (NCTC) in the country;
- (b) if so, the roles and functions envisaged for NCTC;
- (c) the mechanism in place to ensure efficient and effective co-ordination between NCTC and other intelligence/anti-terrorism agencies currently operating in the country;
- (d) whether apprehensions have been expressed by various quarters including certain intelligentsia, Members of Parliament, State Governments etc. over setting up of NCTC; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Union Government thereto including the time line by which NCTC is likely to be made fully operational?

Answer

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

(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.4 FOR 13.3.2012

(a): Government have notified the setting up of the National Counter Terrorism Centre vide their OM dated 3rd February 2012.

(b) & (c): As per the above notification, the duties and functions of NCTC are as follows:

- (i) To draw up plans and coordinate actions for counter terrorism;
- (ii) To integrate intelligence pertaining to terrorism; analyse the same; pursue or mandate other agencies to pursue the different leads; and to coordinate with the existing agencies for an effective response;
- (iii) To maintain a comprehensive data base of terrorists and their associates, friends, families and supporters; of terrorist modules and gangs; and of all information pertaining to terrorists;
- (iv) To prescribe counter terrorism priorities for each stakeholder;
- (v) To ensure that all agencies have access to and receive source intelligence support that is necessary to execute counter terrorism plans and accomplish their assigned tasks;
- (vi) To coordinate with existing investigation and intelligence agencies to ensure that all terrorist cases are solved and the perpetrators are brought to justice; and
- (vii) To prepare daily threat assessment reviews and disseminate them to the State Governments.

In order to ensure an efficient and effective coordination between NCTC and other intelligence and anti-terrorist organisations of the Central Government, the existing Multi Agency Centre (MAC) will be subsumed in the NCTC. In order to have effective coordination between NCTC and State level intelligence agencies, the said OM provides for setting up Inter State Intelligence Support Teams (ISISTs). A Standing Council consisting of the Director, NCTC, the three Joint Directors, NCTC and the Heads of the Anti Terrorist Organisation or Force in each State will be established. The Standing Council shall meet as often as necessary and may also meet through video conference. The Standing Council shall ensure that NCTC is the single and effective point of control and coordination of all counter terrorism measures.

(d) & (e): After the issue of the said Office Memorandum, the Chief Ministers of Odisha, West Bengal, Madhya Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Gujarat, Tripura, Bihar, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand and Karnataka had written to the Central Government, inter-alia, raising concerns about the order encroaching on the domain of the States and expressing the need for consultations with the State Governments before NCTC is operationalised.

The Home Minister has replied to the Chief Ministers enclosing a three-page note on the provisions of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act and the genesis, objectives, structure and powers of the NCTC. To further clarify/ address issues, the Union Home Secretary held a meeting with the State Chief Secretaries, Director Generals of Police and the Home Secretaries on 12.03.2012.