GOVERNMENT OF INDIA HOME AFFAIRS LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:63 ANSWERED ON:14.08.2012 VIOLENCE IN ASSAM Singh Shri Bhola;Verma Smt. Usha

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether several persons have been killed in ethnic violence in Assam recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government has made an assessment of the total loss of lives and property caused by the said violence;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the corrective measures taken by the Government in this regard and also to check such incidents in future along with the financial assistance provided for relief and rehabilitation of the affected people?

Answer

MINISTER OF 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 THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 63 FOR 14.08.2012

(a) to (e) : As per reports received from the Government of Assam, there was tension between two communities of Bodoland Territorial Area District (BTAD) on various socio-political issues; which erupted into communal violence after the killing of four Bodo youths in Kokrajhar on the 20th July, 2012. The violence has resulted in deaths of 77 persons, 50 persons (including 14 police personnel) are injured and 7 persons are missing.

Sixty Five (65) additional Coys of Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs) were provided to the State of Assam to control the violence. National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) was deployed to assist the District Administration, Kokrajhar in relief operations. Flag March by Army and patrolling by Assam Police and Central Armed Police Forces (CAPF) is continuing in the affected areas.

Over 170 persons indulging in violence/arson, etc. have been arrested so far by security forces. 309 cases have been registered in connection with ethnic violence. The investigation of certain cases wherein conspiracy seems to be involved has been handed over to the CBI. The other cases will be investigated by Special Investigation Teams constituted by the State Government.

The State Government has set up 340 camps for people affected by the riots. Ex-gratia of Rs.8 lakh will be provided to the Next of Kin of the persons who died in the violence and adequate compensation will be provided to injured persons. Rehabilitation Grant (RG) of Rs.30,000 for fully damaged houses and Rs.20,000 for partially damaged houses will also be provided to the affected families. Gratuitous relief is being provided to the affected persons.

The Cabinet Secretary took a meeting on the 27th July, 2012 and reviewed the arrangements in the camps in a video conference with Chief Secretary, Assam and other State Govt. officers. The Prime Minister and the Home Minister visited the affected areas on the 28th July, 2012 and 30-31 July, 2012 and reviewed the situation. The Prime Minister declared an assistance of Rs.300 crore for rehabilitation of the displaced persons. Relief & Rehabilitation measures taken by the State Government were reviewed by the Union Home Secretary in a meeting held on 9.8.2012 through video conferencing with Chief Secretary, Assam and other senior officers and also the District Administrations. Additional doctors are being deputed to supplement the doctors and medical teams deployed by the State Govt. and dispatched earlier by the Central Government.

A total of 104 fixed police pickets have been established in the vulnerable villages for security.