

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:855

ANSWERED ON:14.08.2012

SUICIDE AND FRATRICIDE IN CPMFS

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Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there has been a rise in the cases of fratricide, firing at colleagues, suicide cases in various Central Para-Military Forces (CPMFs) and National Security Guard (NSG);
- (b) if so, the number of such cases reported during each of the last three years and the current year separately, force-wise and State-wise including Jammu and Kashmir;
- (c) whether the Government has identified the causes/circumstances for such incidents;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government has taken any steps to protect the morale and image of the forces;
- (f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (g) the other measures taken by the Government to check such cases in future and improve the working condition of the personnel?

Answer

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

(a) & b): As reported by the Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs) & Assam Rifles (ARs) State-wise incident of fratricide, firing at colleagues, suicide cases in Central Armed Police Forces(CAPFs) & Assam Rifles (ARs) during each of the last three years and the current year are given at Annexure-I.

(c) & (d): A Court of Inquiry is conducted in every such incident to ascertain its causes and circumstances. The causative factors in most of the cases were found to be generally the personnel and domestic problems like marital discords, personal enmity, mental illness, depression, etc. In few cases the same could be owing to the work related stress.

(e) to (g): A study was got conducted through Bureau of Police Research & Development (BPR&D) into the factors causing stress in Forces and to suggest the remedial measures for the same. The team, in its report submitted in June,2004, made recommendations which were broadly classified under three heads, viz organizational (37 recommendations), Individual (8 recommendations) and Governmental (3 recommendations). Government has already considered these recommendations to address the stress related problems, their causes and effects on the personnel to check the incidents of suicides.

Following corrective steps have been taken by the Government to control such cases, including easing of job related stress and improving the working conditions, behavior of senior officers and mental health of the personnel of CAPFs & ARs:-

- (i) Implementing a transparent, rational and fair leave policy;
- (ii) Grant of leave to the force personnel to attend to their urgent domestic problems/issues/needs;
- (iii) Regular interaction, both formal and informal, among Commanders, officers and troops to find out and address their problems;
- (iv) Revamping of grievances redressal machinery;
- (v) Regulating duty hours to ensure adequate rest and relief;
- (vi) Improving living conditions through provision of basic amenities/ facilities for troops and their families;
- (vii) Motivating the forces through increased risk, hardship and other allowances;
- (viii) Provision of STD telephone facilities to the troops to facilitate being in touch with their family members and to reduce tension in the remote locations;

- (ix) Better medical facilities for troops and their families including introduction of Composite Hospitals with specialized facilities;
- (x) Organising talks by doctors and other specialists to address their personal and psychological concerns;
- (xi) Yoga and meditation classes for better stress management;
- (xii) Recreational and sports facilities and provision of team games and sports etc;
- (xiii) Providing welfare measures like Central Police canteen facility to the troops and their families, scholarships to their wards, etc.