

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:845

ANSWERED ON:27.11.2012

SUICIDE AND ATTRITION IN CAPF

Naik Dr. Sanjeev Ganesh;Owaisi Shri Asaduddin;Sule Supriya

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that since 2009, 398 Central Armed Police Forces (CAPF) personnels have killed themselves which is more than those who died in fighting extremists and 44,000 personnel have left the job;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government has conducted any study to find out the causes for such cases;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the outcome of the study; and
- (e) the other measures taken by the Government to check such cases and improve the working condition of CAPF personnel?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH)

(a): As reported by the Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs) & Assam Rifles (ARs) total 417 CAPFs & AR personnel committed suicide/killed themselves since 2009 till date whereas 398 personnel laid their lives in the service of the Nation during this period. During the same period 49188 personnel have proceeded on voluntary retirement or resigned, which works out to be about 1.5% of Force strength per year.

(b): The causative factors in most of the cases were found to be generally the personal 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. Further, the personnel are proceeding on voluntary retirement and resignation from service mainly due to various personal and domestic reasons including children/family issues, health/illness of self or family, social/family obligations and commitments etc.

(c) to (e): 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 measures have been taken by the Government to minimize such cases, including easing of job related stress and improve 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;

(xiv) Giving status of ex-CAPF personnel to the retired personnel of CAPF, which is expected to boost the morale of the existing CAPFs personnel and also expected to provide better identity, community recognition and thus higher esteem and pride in the society to the Ex-CAPF personnel.