

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1772

ANSWERED ON:04.12.2012

THREATS TO PANCHAYAT REPRESENTATIVES

Bundela Shri Jeetendra Singh;Muttemwar Shri Vilas Baburao;Ray Shri Saugata;Sharma Shri Jagdish

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there are reports of threats to Panchayat representatives in the State of Jammu and Kashmir;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) whether a number of such representatives have been attacked and killed by terrorist/separatist organizations in the State;
- (d) if so, the details of such cases reported during the current year; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to ensure safety of the said representatives?

Answer

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

(a) to (e): As per information received from the State Government, two Sarpanchs (Kulgam & Baramulla) and one Panch (Baramulla) have been killed by unknown gunmen in the incidents of violence against the elected representatives of the Panchayats. Investigation is on to unravel the truth as to whether the killings of Pachayat members were related to militancy or there were some criminal nexus or personal enmity behind the incidents. State Government have taken measures to ensure safety of the elected representatives of Panchayats which includes night patrolling by security forces and domination of area, perceived to the vulnerable to such attacks. All specific reports about threats to Sarpanchs/Panchs are being attended by the State Police.