

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:114

ANSWERED ON:05.03.2013

SHARING OF INTELLIGENCE TO CHECK TERRORISM

Agarwal Shri Jai Prakash;Tomar Shri Narendra Singh

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has raised the issue of terrorism at the international fora;
- (b) if so, the details of the initiatives taken and the response received thereon during the last three years and the current year;
- (c) whether the involvement of hostile foreign countries/agencies have been reported in the instances of terrorism in the country;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto; and
- (e) the mechanism put in place for sharing of intelligence inputs amongst various States/ security/intelligence agencies along with the other steps taken to check terrorism in the country?

Answer

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

(a) to (e): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 114 FOR 5TH MARCH, 2013.

(a) & (b) : Indian delegations have consistently raised the issue of terrorism and the need for enhanced international cooperation in counter-terrorism efforts as a matter of priority in the United Nations (UN) as well as in other international fora such as the Non-Aligned Movement and the Common Wealth. As a member of the UN, India has always supported the resolutions adopted by the UN General Assembly dealing with various aspects of terrorism.

During India's membership of the Security Council as a non-permanent member from 1 January 2011 to 31 December 2012, India's Permanent Representative to the UN chaired the UN Security Council Committee on Counter-Terrorism Committee [UN CTC], which is the key subsidiary body of the Security Council in the fight against terrorism as well the Security Council's Working Group concerning threats to international peace and security by terrorist acts.

Under India's chairmanship, the UN CTC adopted the concept of `zero tolerance` of terrorism and support for terrorist actions and thereby raised the benchmark for counter-terrorism at the UN. This was done at the Special Meeting of the UN CTC on 28 September 2011 held to mark the 10th anniversary of adoption of Resolution 1373 on counter-terrorism. On 20 November 2012, during India's Presidency of the Security Council, the UN CTC held another Special Meeting which focused the spotlight on prevention and suppression of terrorist financing.

India's Chairmanship of UN CTC imparted a renewed momentum to the global counter-terrorism efforts and promoted a culture of zero tolerance towards terrorism. For the first time, three Special Meetings of the Committee with participation of the wider UN membership and international regional and sub-regional organizations were held during India's two-year Chairmanship since the setting up of Committee in 2001 [the Committee has organized only five such meetings till 2010]. This emphasis on outreach efforts and inclusivity has resonated well with the wider membership of the UN.

India also has Joint Working Groups (JWGs) on Counter-Terrorism with 25 countries and 2 Regional Groups. The concerns related to terrorism and respective threat perceptions are exchanged during the meetings of JWGs. These are useful platforms for sharing views, policy coordination and exploring capacity building cooperation related to counter terrorism. During the last three years, 18 meetings of the JWGs have been held.

Apart from the above, India has made efforts for intensifying cooperation in the field of financing of terrorism, counterfeit currency, capacity building, sharing of information and its analysis and exchange of best practices. India have also signed mutual legal assistance and extradition agreements with partner countries.

(c) & (d) : Terrorism emanating from territory under Pakistan's control remains a core concern for India. Through different fora like Home Secretary level talks/Foreign Secretary level talks / Ministerial level talks, the Government of India has sought a firm and abiding commitment from Pakistan that it will not allow its

territory and territory under its control to be used for aiding and abetting of terrorist activities directed against India and for providing sanctuary to such terrorist groups. India has consistently stressed to its interlocutors the need for Pakistan to honour its commitment of not allowing territory under its control to be used for terrorism against India in any manner.

(e) : There exists a very close and effective coordination amongst intelligence agencies at the Center and the State levels as a mechanism for sharing of intelligence inputs. Intelligence inputs about possible designs and threats are shared with the State Governments concerned on a regular basis. The Multi Agency Center (MAC) has been strengthened and re-organised to enable it to function on 24x7 basis for real time collation and sharing of intelligence with other intelligence agencies and security intelligence inputs are shared with the concerned States through the established mechanism, which ensures close coordination and sharing of intelligence and seamless flow of information between the States and the Central Security and Law Enforcement Agency. This has resulted in busting of terrorist modules.

Law & Order and Police is a State subject, therefore, the primary responsibility to address these remains with the State Governments. Combating terrorism, however, is a shared responsibility considering its implication on internal security. In order to deal with the menace of extremism and terrorism the Government of India have taken various measures which, inter-alia, include augmenting the strength of Central Armed Police Forces; establishment of four NSG hubs; empowerment of DG, NSG to requisition private aircraft in the event of any emergency; tighter immigration control; effective border

management through round the clock surveillance & patrolling on the borders; establishment of observation posts, border fencing, flood lighting, deployment of modern and hi-tech surveillance equipment; upgradation of Intelligence setup; and coastal security.

Besides, the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967 has been suitably amended in 2008 and 2012 to criminalize financing of terrorism and inclusion of counterfeiting of currency notes in the definition of terrorism, besides strengthening the punitive measures. The National Investigation Agency has been constituted under the National Investigation Agency Act, 2008 to investigate and prosecute offences under the Acts specified in the Schedule. As a part of steps to counter terrorist threats, the National Intelligence Grid (NATGRID) has been created.

The Prevention of Money Laundering Act has been amended in 2009 to inter alia, include certain offences under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, as predicate offence.

Further, the Government continues to raise the issues of Cross-Border Terrorism in all its aspects including its financing on various multi-lateral and bilateral fora.