

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1192
ANSWERED ON:05.03.2013
KHALISTAN EXTREMISM
Deo Shri Kalikesh Narayan Singh

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there are reports of spurt in activities of Khalistan extremists in the country;
- (b) if so, the number of cases reported along with the number of persons arrested and convicted during each of the last three years and the current year;
- (c) the measures taken by the Government to contain the menace of Khalistan extremism; and
- (d) the current status of the Punjab Accord?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) : No spurt in the activities of Khalistan extremists in India has been noticed and no major terrorist incident from Sikh terrorist angle has taken place since October 2007. However, available inputs suggest that Sikh Militant groups especially those based abroad, continue to persist with their efforts to undertake terrorist action in India. 47 persons were arrested in 2010, 9 in 2011 and 14 in 2012 for their linkages with Sikh terrorism. In the current year no arrest has been made in connection with Sikh terrorism till 15th February, 2013. Most of the cases pertaining to the arrested persons are still under trial.

(c): The Govt. has adopted an integrated approach to counter such attempts which, inter-alia include sustained vigilance along the borders, strengthening of mechanisms for intelligence gathering and sharing; modernization and up-gradation of police and Security Forces with advanced/sophisticated weapons. A close watch is maintained on the activities of various groups known to have been engaged in trying to foment terrorist activities in Punjab. In addition, pro-Khalistan terrorist outfits namely, Babbar Khalsa International, International Sikh Youth Federation, Khalistan Commando Force and Khalistan Zindabad Force continue to be listed as Terrorist Organizations in the schedule to the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Amendment Act, 2004.

(d): Memorandum of Settlement on Punjab issues signed between the then Prime Minister Late Shri Rajiv Gandhi and Late Sant Harchand Singh Longowal on 24-07-1985 contained 11 items. Out of these, eight items have already been implemented. Items No.5, 7 and 9 relating to formulation of All India Gurdwaras Act, Territorial claims between Punjab & Haryana and Sharing of river waters between Punjab, Haryana & Rajasthan respectively could not be implemented since a consensus on these issues could not be evolved between the concerned State Governments.