

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2180
ANSWERED ON:11.03.2013
SOLDIERS AT SIACHEN
Naik Dr. Sanjeev Ganesh

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the soldiers posted at Siachen are facing a lot of problems including home sickness;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the corrective steps taken / proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY)

(a) to (c): Deployment on extreme High Altitudes such as Siachen Glacier requires troops to be physically conditioned and acclimatized to enable them to withstand vagaries of terrain and be physically conditioned to effectively safeguard our borders. To ensure that soldiers are physically fit, mentally alert and psychologically motivated, a number of measures / facilities / provisions have been ensured including proper clothing, diet, habitat, regular interaction by Commanders, grant of leave etc. including counselling.