

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4814
ANSWERED ON:23.04.2013
ARREST IN ESPIONAGE CASES
Meghwal Shri Arjun Ram

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any arrest was made in espionage cases during the recent military exercise in Pokharan area of Rajasthan;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken against the persons arrested in this regard; and
- (c) the preventive measures taken by the Government to check such activities in future?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): On 24th February, 2013, Rajasthan Police arrested Sumar Khan Cheena, resident of Pokharan, District- Jaisalmer for his involvement in espionage related activities at the behest of Pakistan Intelligence Agency ISI. Revelations of Sumar Khan also led to the arrest of Surinder Sharma, resident of Delhi and an employee of Ministry of Home Affairs for providing secrets/ sensitive information to Sumar Khan. Incidentally, during this period, an Air Force exercise was also in progress in the area of Jaisalmer. First Information Report No.01/2013 dated 25.02.2013 has been registered at Special Police Station, Jaipur.

(C): The Government has been pursuing a well coordinated and multi- pronged approach to tackle with the espionage activities by Indian and Foreign Nationals including of Pakistanis, which include strengthening vigilance on the borders to check infiltration and illegal cross border activities, gearing up the Intelligence machinery to interdict Pakistani agents, close interaction and coordination between different agencies of the Centre and the State Governments for neutralising plans of militants and ISI/ anti-national elements, modernisation and strengthening and upgradation of State Police and Security Forces.