## GOVERNMENT OF INDIA HOME AFFAIRS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2494 ANSWERED ON:12.03.2013 SUICIDE CASES IN CAPF Maadam Shri Vikrambhai Arjanbhai

## Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a large number of Central Armed Police Forces (CAPF) personnel have reportedly committed suicide;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor along with the total number of such cases reported during each of the last three years and the current year, force-wise, rank-wise and gender-wise;
- (c) whether the Government has conducted any study/investigation and constituted any special task force to find out the reasons behind such cases;
- (d) if so, the details and the outcome thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to address the issue?

## Answer

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

(a) & (b) As reported by the Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs) and Assam Rifles (AR) & National Security Guards (NSG), rankwise, gender-wise and force-wise details of personnel who committed suicide during each of the last three years and the current year is as under:-

{GOs- Gazetted Officers, JCOs/SOs-Junior Commissioned Officers/Subordinate Officers & Ors-Other Ranks}

The causative factors in most of the cases were found to be generally the personal and domestic problems like marital discords, personal enmity, mental illness, depression, etc. In few cases the same could be owing to the work related stress.

(c) to (e): A study/investigation was got conducted through Bureau of Police Research & Development (BPR&D) into the factors causing stress in Forces and to suggest the remedial measures for the same. The team, in its report submitted in June,2004, made recommendations which were broadly classified under three heads, viz organizational (37 recommendations), Individual (8 recommendations) and Governmental (3 recommendations). Government has already considered these recommendations to address the stress related problems, their causes and effects on the personnel to check the incidents of suicides.

Following measures have been taken by the Government to minimize such cases, including easing of job related stress and improve the working conditions, behavior of senior officers and mental health of the personnel of CAPFs & AR:-

- (i) Implementing a transparent, rational and fair leave policy;
- (ii) Grant of leave to the force personnel to attend to their urgent domestic problems/issues /needs;
- (iii) Regular interaction, both formal and informal, among Commanders, officers and troops to find out and address their problems;
- (iv) Revamping of grievances redressal machinery;
- (v) Regulating duty hours to ensure adequate rest and relief;
- (vi) Improving living conditions through provision of basic amenities/ facilities for troops and their families;
- (vii) Motivating the forces through increased risk, hardship and other allowances;
- (viii) Provision of STD telephone facilities to the troops to facilitate being in touch with their family members and to reduce tension in the remote locations;
- (ix) Better medical facilities for troops and their families including introduction of Composite Hospitals with specialized facilities;
- (x) Organising talks by doctors and other specialists to address their personal and psychological concerns;
- (xi) Yoga and meditation classes for better stress management;
- (xii) Recreational and sports facilities and provision of team games and sports etc;
- (xiii) Providing welfare measures like Central Police canteen facility to the troops and their families, scholarships to their wards, etc;
- (xiv) Giving status of ex-CAPF personnel to the retired personnel of CAPF, which is expected to boost the morale of the existing CAPFs personnel and also expected to provide better identity, community recognition and thus higher esteem and pride in the society to the Ex-CAPF personnel.