

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:311

ANSWERED ON:06.08.2013

BOMB BLASTS AT TEMPLES .

Bauri Smt. Susmita;Chaudhary Shri Arvind Kumar;Choudhary Shri Nikhil Kumar;Meghwal Shri Arjun Ram ;Patil Shri A.T. Nana;Putul Kumari Smt. ;Ray Shri Saugata

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether bomb blasts have occurred at major temples located in various States of the country recently;
- (b) if so, the details of public places and famous temples at which such blasts were carried out during the last six months, State-wise;
- (c) whether warnings were issued by the Government to such States;
- (d) if so, whether prior intimation was given to the State Government in regard to the bomb blasts that occurred in Mahabodhi temple complex in Bihar; and
- (e) if so, the reasons behind the security lapse?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) : One incident of a serial bomb blasts (10 blasts) took place in the Mahabodhi Temple at BodhGaya in Bihar on 7th July, 2013. Four blasts took place in the Mahabodhi Temple Campus, three in Therger Monastery, one near 80 ft. Statue of Lord Buddha and one under a vacant tourist bus standing near the bus stand. The remains of tenth blast were found in the village Baiju Bigha under a transformer, which is nearly 1.5 km away from the Mahabodhi temple.

Apart from the above, two other incidents of bomb blasts took place in the public places in the hinterland of the country during the last six months, first at Dilsukhnagar in Hyderabad on 21.2.2013 and second at Sai Nilaya Temple Street, Malleswaram, Bengaluru at about 120 ft. north of the State BJP Office on 17.4.2013.

(c) to (e) : Indian Mujahideen (IM) terrorists, arrested for their involvement in Pune Blasts Case (1.8.2012), had revealed their plans to target temples in BodhGaya. The input was shared with concerned agencies through Multi-Agency Centre (MAC) on October, 2012. As 'Law & Order' is a State subject as per the 7th Schedule of the Constitution of India, the further action lies with the concerned State Security Agencies.