GOVERNMENT OF INDIA HOME AFFAIRS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4007 ANSWERED ON:15.12.2009 FUNDING TO TERRORISTS Paranjpe Shri Anand Prakash;Rawat Shri Ashok Kumar

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are reports that the militants/terrorists active in the country are being funded by foreign countries;

(b) if so, the details of such cases reported during each of the last three years and the current year;

(c) whether such funding poses a threat to the security of the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to check such fundings?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI AJAY MAKEN)

(a) & (d): As per available information, Militants/terrorists active in India are often funded by their parent outfits based abroad, particularly in Pakistan. These funds are usually often routed through third countries. The details of such cases are not centrally maintained. Such funding poses a threat to the security of the country.

(e): The Central intelligence/security agencies work in close cooperation with their counterparts in the States, which has, inter-alia, resulted in the arrest of a number of terrorists involved in facilitating funds/financing of terrorism. The Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967 has been amended in 2008 to reinforce the punitive provision to combat the terrorism, which includes strengthening of provisions for Combating the Financing of Terrorism. The Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002 has been amended in 2009, to inter-alia, expand the schedule of offences. Certain offences under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967 have been included as scheduled offences under Prevention of Money Laundering Act. The FIU-IND is also assisting the law enforcement agencies by way of disseminating financial intelligence.

The issue of terror funding has also been taken up with Pakistan at the bilateral fora.