

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:132
ANSWERED ON:04.03.2015
ATTACKS ON INDIANS ABROAD
Singh Captain Amarinder

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether alleged incidents of attacks/assaults on Indians have been reported from various countries, particularly from Pakistan;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, country-wise;
- (c) whether the Government has taken up the issue with the countries concerned to restore the confidence of Indians living there;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the response thereto, country-wise; and
- (e) whether attacks on Sikh community is on the rise in the restive province of Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa in Pakistan and if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ)

(a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 132 REGARDING "ATTACKS ON INDIANS ABROAD" FOR ANSWER ON 04.03.2015

(a) to (d) From time to time, Indian Missions abroad come across cases of attacks/ assaults on Indian nationals. In the case of Pakistan, there are currently no Indian nationals residing there other than members of the High Commission.

Whenever any attacks on Indian nationals are reported, the concerned Indian Mission/ Post abroad promptly takes up the matter with the local Foreign Office and other concerned authorities to ensure safety of Indian nationals so that such incidents of violence against Indian nationals do not recur. Follow-up action including providing consular assistance to the affected Indian nationals is also performed by the Mission /Post.

When approached, the host Government(s) normally provide(s) all necessary assistance and required security to the Indian nationals living in that country. Our Missions and Posts impress upon the concerned foreign governments to investigate incidents of attacks and bring the culprits to justice. They liaise with the concerned authorities during the investigation and trial of the culprits.

Country-wise list with details, from where incidents of attacks/assaults were reported, is attached as Annexure.

(e) Government has seen reports on the problems faced by members of the minority communities in Pakistan, including the Sikh community.

It is the primary responsibility of foreign Government to discharge their obligations towards all their citizens including those who belong to their minority communities. The 'Simla Agreement' with Pakistan specifically provides for non-interference in each other's internal affairs. Nevertheless, in the past, based on reports of persecution of minority communities in Pakistan, Government had taken up the matter with the Government of Pakistan. In response, the Government of Pakistan has stated that it was fully cognizant and looked after the welfare of all its citizens, particularly the minority community.