

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3306
ANSWERED ON:17.03.2015
TERROR THREAT TO PANCHAYAT REPRESENTATIVES
Roy Prof. Saugata

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a number of Presidents/Chairman of the Gram Panchayat and Block Panchayat's have quit their post due to fear of their life by militants in the State of Jammu & Kashmir;
- (b) if so, the number of such cases reported during the last three years and the current year; and
- (c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HARIBHAI PARATHIBHAI CHAUDHARY)

- (a) to (b): As reported by the State Government of Jammu and Kashmir, 89 Sarpanches and Panches have submitted their resignation in the State of Jammu and Kashmir during the last three years, on account of apprehension of militant attacks. However, during the current year no such case has been reported in the State.
- (c): Various measures have been taken to instill confidence in the Panchayat representatives, create of sense of security among them and reduce their threat perception. The measures inter alia include
- (i) strengthening of security grid and sanitization of the vulnerable areas
 - (ii) working out proper security assessment of the Panchayat members to provide them security cover, it needed
 - (iii) ensuring close co-ordination and synergy amongst different agencies on regular basis
 - (iv) intensifying night patrolling and area domination in the vulnerable areas
 - (v) holding regular meetings with Sarpanches/Panches at District/Sub-division/Police Station levels to boost their levels of confidence
 - (vi) Telephone/mobile numbers of Police Control Rooms have also been provided to Panchayat representatives for assistance as and when needed
 - (vii) expeditious investigation of cases registered to create a sense of security among the Panchayat representatives to reduce their threat perception.