

nt>

Title: Regarding withdrawal of three divisions of Army from the borders.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL (CHANDIGARH): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the other day, while replying to the debate on the Adjournment Motion, the hon. Deputy Prime Minister said with pride, and I appreciate that sense of pride, that his Government does not look to any foreign power to act in the interest of the country. Today, there is a disturbing news in a section of the media that just a week before the massacre in Qasimpura in Jammu and Kashmir, on the eve of the visit of the U.S. Defence Secretary, our Government had withdrawn three strike divisions from the borders.

It meant taking away of 18,000 Army people as a goodwill measure when we know it very well that nothing will matter with Pakistan. Your goodwill initiatives in the past have proved futile. That is what the hon. Deputy Prime Minister himself said. I know that none of them is present here. But this being a very grave matter I would like any hon. Minister present here to take note of this and bring it to the notice of the hon. Deputy Prime Minister and then get back to this House as to whether this is a fact that when the US Defence Secretary visited India just to be in his good books, the Government withdrew as many as 18,000 people from the border leaving our people to be massacred by the people whom the Government says are indulging in cross-border terrorism. Are we not leaving a fertile ground for them? What is the action that we are taking? Is our primary concern only to win the confidence or the goodwill of the people in the US? Or, is to protect the interest of the Indians here? I would like this to be told to this House by none other than the Deputy-Prime Minister who was present in the House the other day.