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Title: The Minister of Defence made a statement regarding ambush incident by Pakistan Army to the Line of Control in Punch sector of Jammu and Kashmir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The hon. Minister.

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): Mr. Chairman, Sir, a patrol of Indian Army comprising of one Non Commissioned Officer and five Other Ranks was ambushed on our side of Line of Control in Punch Sector of J&K early morning on August 6, 2013. In the ensuing firefight, five Indian soldiers were martyred and one soldier was injured. The ambush was carried out by approximately 20 heavily armed terrorists along with persons dressed in Pakistan Army uniforms.

The numbers of infiltration attempts have doubled this year in comparison to the corresponding period (1 January - 5 August) of 2012. There has also been 57 Cease fire Violations this year which is 80 per cent more than the violations last year during the same corresponding period. The Indian Army successfully eliminated 19 hardcore terrorists in the recent months of July and August along the Line of Control and in the hinterland in J&K. The effective counter infiltration grid on the Line of Control has ensured that 17 infiltration bids were foiled this year.

We strongly condemn this unprovoked incident. The Government of India has lodged strong protest with Government of Pakistan through diplomatic channels. I assure the House that our Army is fully ready to take all necessary steps to uphold the sanctity of LoC. The Government of India conveys its condolences to the families of the martyrs who made the supreme sacrifice in the line of duty.

(Placed in Library, See No. LT9268A/15/13)

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please do not disturb.

...(Interruptions)

श्री शैलेन्द्र कुमार (कौशांबी): सभापति जी, अध्यक्ष महोदया ने कहा है कि इस पर चर्चा कराई जाए। ... (व्यवधान) यह बहुत गंभीर मामला है। ... (व्यवधान)

15.04 hrs

*At this stage, Shri Sansuma Khunggur Bwiswmuthiary
came and stood on the floor near the Table.*

...(Interruptions)

श्री शैलेन्द्र कुमार : महोदय, इस पर चर्चा कराई जाए। ... (व्यवधान)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, now the Minister has made a *suo motu* statement as per Rule 372; no clarificatory questions are allowed. Therefore, I am not allowing any clarificatory questions. Adequate opportunities are available under the rules to raise a discussion on the issue. If a proper notice is given, the same may be placed before the hon. Speaker for consideration.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Item No. 14, Shri Virender Kashyap.

...(Interruptions)