

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS**

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 318
TO BE ANSWERED ON 01.12.2015**

MORATORIUM ON COMMUNAL VIOLENCE

318. SHRI AVINASH PANDE:

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the measures that have been taken by Government, and specifically, the Ministry of Minority Affairs to strengthen the implementation of the ten-year moratorium on communal violence announced by the Prime Minister on 15 August, 2014;
- (b) whether Government is planning to revisit and revise the Guidelines for Communal Harmony to give effect to the moratorium; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS
(SHRI MUKHTAR ABBAS NAQVI)**

(a) to (c): 'Public Order' and 'Police' being State subjects under the Constitution of India, the responsibility of dealing with communal violence, registration, investigation/ inquiry and prosecution of crimes and maintaining relevant data in this regard rests primarily with respective State Government. However, under Prime Minister's New 15 Point Programme (PM's New 15PP) for the Welfare of Minorities, the Government has issued the Guidelines on Communal Harmony to the States/UTs in 2008, which, inter alia, delineate steps to be taken to prevent communal violence and steps to be taken to restore peace and order in case of outbreak of communal violence.

To maintain communal harmony in the country, the Central Government assists the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations in a variety of ways like sharing of intelligence, sending alert messages, sending Central Armed Police Forces, including the composite Rapid Action Force created specially to deal with communal situations, to the concerned State Governments on specific requests and in the modernization of the State Police Forces. In addition, the Central Government sends advisories in this regard from time to time. The activities of all organizations having a bearing on communal harmony in the country and are under constant watch of the law enforcement agencies and requisite legal action is taken, wherever necessary.

A review meeting of PM's New 15PP was taken by Ministry of Minority Affairs on 06th November, 2015, attended by 15 Ministries/Departments, including home Ministry wherein issues of Communal Harmony and strengthening of efforts for socio-economic and educational empowerment of minorities in coordination with States were stressed upon.
