GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3396 TO BE ANSWERED ON 22.03.2017

CONFRONTING TERRORIST ACTIVITIES

3396. SHRI R.P. MARUTHARAJAA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the issue of recent terrorist attacks in Jammu and Kashmir by militants from across the border was taken up with Pakistani authorities and if so, the details thereof and the response of Pakistan thereto;
- (b) whether such matters are taken to the United Nations under the co-operation for counter-terrorism and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether diplomatic efforts are made all over the world to condemn such terrorist acts coming from across the border; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS [GEN. (Dr) V. K. SINGH (RETD)]

(a) Terrorism emanating from across our borders remains our core concern in our relationship with Pakistan. Our concerns regarding intensified series of infiltration and terrorist attacks from across the Line of Control (LOC) and International Border (IB) have been strongly conveyed to Pakistan on a number of occasions. Foreign Secretary met with Pakistan's Foreign Secretary in New Delhi on April 26, 2016 and conveyed that Pakistan cannot be in denial on the impact of terrorism on the bilateral relationship. In the aftermath of Uri terrorist attack on September 18, 2016, the Pakistan High Commissioner was demarched by the Foreign Secretary twice on September 21 and September 27. The Government of Pakistan was reminded of its solemn commitment made in January 2004 not to allow territories under its control to be used for terrorism against India. It was also told in unequivocal terms that continuing cross-border attacks against India are unacceptable.

(b) The Government has regularly approached the United Nations Security Council Sanctions Committee pursuant to Resolutions 1267 (1999), 1989 (2011) and 2253 (2015) concerning ISIS, Al-Qaeda and associated individuals / entities with requests for listing known terrorists so that sanctions / measures like embargo, travel ban and assets freeze shall be imposed upon them by all UN member states.

(c) & (d) India has been raising the issue of effectively addressing efforts to counter terror, including state sponsored cross border terrorism at the United Nations in all its multilateral engagements. External Affairs Minister raised the issue of cross border terrorism at the General Debate of the 71st General Assembly Session of the United Nations on September 26, 2016.

The Government undertook active diplomatic efforts to highlight the support in Pakistan to terrorism directed against India. The Prime Minister categorically stated at G-20 Summit at Hangzhou on September 4, 2016 that "one single nation in South Asia is spreading agents of terror in our region". This was also stressed by Prime Minister during the 11th East Asia Summit and during the 14th ASEAN-India Summit held in Vientiane, Lao PDR on September 8, 2016, as well as during the recently concluded BRICS Summit in Goa on October 16, 2016. India's diplomatic missions in key countries briefed their host governments about the persistence of Pakistan in glorifying anti-India terrorists and supporting cross border terrorism against India which endangered peace and stability in the entire region. Several SAARC countries, separately but on the same day, conveyed to the current SAARC Chair Nepal on September 27, 2016 that the environment in region because of terrorism emanating from one country is not conducive to the holding of Summit in November 2016.

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