GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO.376

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 21ST MARCH, 2018

DEATHS OF SOLDIERS

*376. SHRI A.P. JITHENDER REDDY:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE j{kk ea=h
be pleased to state:

(a) the number of soldiers who have died in Siachen Glacier and other such Super High Altitude Areas along with the cause of their death in the last one decade;

(b) the number of soldiers who have died due to reasons other than battle wound in such areas during the above period;

(c) the steps taken by the Government for reducing deaths of soldiers occurring due to reasons other than battle wound in these areas; and

(d) the results achieved from these steps?

A N S W E R

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)
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(a) to (d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

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STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 376 FOR ANSWER ON 21.3.2018

(a) & (b): Casualty data maintained is as per the notified operational areas. Details regarding death of soldiers in Siachen Glacier during last one decade are as under:-

Year	Casualty	
	Officers	JCOs / ORs
2008	-	09
2009	-	13
2010	-	50
2011	02	22
2012	01	11
2013	-	11
2014	01	07
2015	01	10
2016	01	19
2017	-	05
2018	-	-

Causes of death in Siachen Glacier and other Super High Altitude Areas range from those directly related to high altitude like High Altitude Pulmonary Oedema (HAPO), High Altitude cerebral Oedema (HACO) and Pulmonary Thrombo Embolism (PTE) to other general causes.

(c) & (d): Indian Army soldiers deployed in extremely harsh terrain and weather conditions are suitably equipped and properly trained to undertake operational challenges and carry out their mandated tasks. The soldiers deployed at Siachen Glacier are provided with best quality winter clothing including 'Extreme Cold Climate' clothing. Besides, they are provided with prefabricated insulated shelters and wherever it is not possible to construct such shelters due to technical difficulties, insulated tents are provided which can withstand low temperatures upto-50^{o} Celsius.

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