## GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

# LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3366

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 1ST JANUARY, 2019/, PAUSHA 11, 1940 (SAKA) SCHEMES FOR WELLNESS OF POLICE PERSONNEL

3366. DR. M. VEERAPPA MOILY:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there exists any central scheme for wellness of policemen's mental health and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether personnel from the lowest ranks of Central Armed Police Forces (CAPF)have access to the Central Government's employed counsellors and if so, the details of ratio of the personnel to counsellors;
- (c) whether States have schemes to help policemen of ranks lower than inspector rank to recover from posttraumatic stress disorders developed while performing their duty and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether the Central Government has any data on suicides committed by policemen of ranks lower than the inspector rank for unidentified reasons and if so, the details thereof?

## **ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR)

- (a) & (c): No, Madam. Further, as "Police" is a State subject falling in List-II (State List) of the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution of India, it is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments/UT Administrations to take various measures for wellness of their police personnel.
- (b): In so far as Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs) are concerned, various measures are taken by the Central Government for the wellness of police personnel as per Annexure.

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(d): No such data on suicides committed by police personnel of ranks lower than the Inspector rank for unidentified reasons is maintained centrally. However, as per data compiled by the National Crime Records Bureau, a total number of 165, 167 and 157 suicides were committed by police personnel in the States/UTs in the years 2014, 2015 & 2016, respectively.

Further, in so far as CAPFs are concerned, 09 suicide cases out of 60 suicides committed by CAPFs personnel were registered under unidentified reasons in various police stations of States/UTs in 2015.

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The following are the measures for the wellness of Police Personnel in CAPFs:-

#### **Central Reserve Police Force**

and counselling of personnel, on their return from leave/reporting on transfer etc., are held by the concerned Coy Commander/Unit Commandant with a view to find out whether individual has any domestic problem and to help him/her in sorting out problems, if any, to the extent possible. Counselling is also done to personnel having post-traumatic disorders developed after occurrence of any major incident. Personnel requiring special treatment are referred to Composite Hospitals. A mobile application i.e. Global Mental Health Assessment Tool is in practice for evaluation/screening of psychiatric cases. Each Unit has been provided Medical Officer and sufficient paramedical staff. Indian Council of Medical Research-sponsored counselling courses are conducted. Field Officers are keeping a close watch on the activities and mental health of personnel under their command and encouraging them to come out with their problems so that the same can be sorted out. Informal interactions of Officers with troops, participation in games and sports with them and inquiring about their family welfare during routine visits to Out-posts and lines etc., are conducted. Officers are instructed to encourage personnel to come out with their problems/grievances and also to ensure proper infrastructure for placing recreational activities for the benefit of troops.

## **Border Security Force**

Yoga training by qualified instructors has been started. Rest and Relief Policy has been introduced in order to ensure adequate rest and relief. Provision of better communication facilities at places of deployment, particularly in remote areas, is made. Transparency in distribution of duties is ensured to prevent resentment and discontent amongst personnel.

#### **Central Industrial Security Force**

Various stress management programmes are continuously conducted for personnel through various organizations. Training on Counselling Skills, Mentoring etc., is conducted in Training Programmes.

## **Indo-Tibetan Border Police**

Various steps taken in this regard include timely leave to troops, medical facilities at BOPs/BHQ and separate families accommodations among others. While personal problems are looked into by senior officers, efforts are made to rotate troops periodically from Extreme Hard Area/Hard Area to soft Areas. Sports, Yoga, Spiritual classes, Cultural activities etc., are conducted/held frequently at Unit level.

#### Sashastra Seema Bal

Personnel deployed in units/places involving hardship are given rest on regular intervals.

#### **Assam Rifles**

Several steps such as Inter-Personnel Interaction, Regular leave and welfare measures, Family Accommodation, Improvement of living conditions, Buddy system, Grievance Mechanism etc., are undertaken to reduce stress amongst the Police Personnel.

2. Besides above, 60 days Earned leave, 15 days Casual Leave, Paternity/Maternity Leave, Medical Leave etc., are admissible to all the personnel of CAPFs at the field level. They are also granted leave at regular intervals as per their requirement liberally.

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