GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. *128

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 12TH FEBRUARY, 2019/ MAGHA 23, 1940 (SAKA)

ATTACK ON RELIGIOUS CONGREGATIONS

*128. DR. A. SAMPATH:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has investigated the attacks on a religious congregation in the country;

(b) if so, whether the involvement of any terrorist organisation was found;

(c) the total number of persons arrested and the progress of the investigation; and

(d) the preventive and security measures taken to thwart such attacks in future, especially on religious congregations?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. *128 FOR 12TH FEBRUARY, 2019.

(a): A grenade attack took place in Punjab at a prayer hall in Adliwal Village, PS Rajasansi, Amritsar on 18th November, 2018. The Punjab Police has registered a case which is being investigated.

(b): As per available information, the involvement of Khalistan Liberation Force (KLF) and International Sikh Youth Federation (ISYF) have come to notice in this incident.

(c): The Punjab Police has arrested 02 persons involved in the grenade attack. 03 other persons, residing in other countries, are also accused in the case. Open dated warrants of arrest have been procured in their cases.

(d): In order to avert terror incidents in the country, there is a close and effective coordination mechanism between intelligence and security agencies at the Centre and the State level. The Multi Agency Centre (MAC) has been strengthened and re-organized to enable it to function on 24x7 basis for real time collation and sharing of intelligence with other Intelligence Agencies and State Governments. With a view to enhance the capacity of State forces, the Central Agencies have been organising training programmes for the States forces to collect, collate, analyse and disseminate intelligence from counter terrorism perspective and investigation of terror cases. States have also raised special forces to deal with terror incidents and Central Armed Police Forces and National Security Guards have also been stationed at different locations to assist the States in dealing with such incidents.

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