GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4919

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 23rd JULY, 2019/ SHRAVANA 01, 1941 (SAKA)
JOINT STATEMENT ON TERROR FINANCING

4919. SHRI SUDHEER GUPTA:

SHRI SANJAY SADASHIV RAO MANDLIK:

SHRI BIDYUT BARAN MAHATO:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India has vowed in a recent BRICS meet that all types of support for terrorism must be stopped as terrorism is the biggest threat to humanity and it harms economic progress and social stability of a nation;
- (b) if so, whether India along with G-20 members have issued a joint statement to prevent financing of terrorist networks and terrorist activities from their territories;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government to prevent terror funding in the country;
- (d) whether the Union Government has issued any directives to all the State Governments to take stringent measures in order to put a check on such illegal trade; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the State Governments in this regard?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY)

(a) to (e): During the Informal BRICS Meeting, on the margins of G20 Osaka Summit (28-29 June, 2019), India along with other BRICS members strongly condemned terrorist attacks in all forms and manifestations. Members urged concerted efforts and a comprehensive approach to counter terrorism under the UN auspices on a firm international legal basis. They reiterated that it is the responsibility of all states to prevent financing of terrorist networks and of terrorist actions from their territories. They also reiterated their commitment to fight the exploitation of internet for terrorist purposes.

During recently held G20 Summit at Osaka, Japan (28-29 June, 2019), leaders issued a 'G20 Osaka Leaders' Statement on Preventing Exploitation of the Internet for Terrorism and Violent Extremism Conducive to Terrorism (VECT). Earlier, at Hamburg G20 Summit in July 2017, Leaders issued 'The Hamburg G20 Leaders' Statement on Countering Terrorism'. In the said Statement, G20 members underlined their resolve to make the international financial system entirely hostile to terrorist financing. They reaffirmed their commitment to tackle all sources, techniques and channels of terrorist financing.

The Government has taken various steps to combat terror financing in the country, which inter alia, include:-

- i) Strengthening the provisions in the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967 to combat terror financing by criminalizing the production or smuggling or circulation of high quality counterfeit Indian currency as a terrorist act and enlarge the scope of proceeds of terrorism to include any property intended to be used for terrorism.
- ii) A Terror Funding and Fake Currency (TFFC) Cell has been constituted in National Investigation Agency (NIA) to conduct focused investigation of terror funding and fake currency cases.
- iii) An advisory on terror financing has been issued in April 2018 to States/
 Union Territories. Guidelines have also been issued in March, 2019 to States/
 Union Territories for investigation of cases of high quality counterfeit Indian currency notes.

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- iv) Training programmes are regularly conducted for the State Police personnel on issues relating to combating terrorist financing.
- v) Fake Indian Currency Notes (FICN) network is one of the channels of terror financing in India, FICN Coordination Group (FCORD) has been formed by the MHA to share intelligence/information among the security agencies of the states/centre to counter the problem of circulation of fake currency notes.
- vi) Intelligence and security agencies of Centre and States work in tandem to keep a close watch on the elements involved in terror funding activities and take action as per law.
