EXCHANGE OF FIRE ON LOC

382. SHRI NAMA NAGESWARA RAO:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Pakistani soldiers killed in the valley since abrogation of Article 370;

(b) the number of incidents of exchange of fire that took place across the Line of Control since August 05, 2019;

(c) the details of preparedness in place to face escalated exchange of fire from across the border;

(d) whether the Government is planning to initiate dialogue with Pakistan to bring about normalcy across the Line of Control; and

(e) whether there is any proposal to re-start mail from Pakistan and vice-versa?

ANSWER

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

(a): No such data is maintained centrally.

(b): 950 incidents of ceasefire violations along Line of Control from across the border in Jammu and Kashmir were reported during August, 2019 to October, 2019.
(c): Immediate and effective retaliation is undertaken by the security forces in cases of ceasefire violations. All such incidents of ceasefire violations are also taken up with Pakistan at appropriate level through established mechanism and flag meetings.

(d): Terrorism emanating from territories under Pakistan's control remains a core concern in bilateral relations. India has consistently stressed the need for Pakistan to take credible, irreversible and verifiable action to end cross border terrorism against India and fulfill its assurances, given to India at the highest level in January 2004 and reiterated several times, that territory under its control would not be allowed to be used for terrorism against India in any manner. India will not compromise on issues related to its national security and take firm and decisive measures to deal with all attempts to undermine India's security and territorial integrity.

(e): Pakistan unilaterally stopped mail exchange with India on 23rd August 2019. The Government has taken up the matter with the Universal Postal Union (UPU).

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