

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4164**

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 29TH MARCH, 2022/ CHAITRA 8, 1944 (SAKA)

FRATRICIDE INCIDENT IN AMRITSAR

**4164. SHRI V.K.SREEKANDAN:
SHRI BALUBHAU ALIAS SURESH NARAYAN DHANORKAR:
SHRI MANISH TEWARI:
SHRIMATI KESHARI DEVI PATEL:
SHRI KANAKMAL KATARA:**

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken note of recent incidents of fratricide by personnel of paramilitary forces including the incidents in Amritsar on 6th March and in Murshidabad on 8th March this year;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the causes of such incidents along with the subsequent action taken thereon;

(c) whether the families of the jawans killed will be provided monetary compensation, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the alleged shooter at Amritsar was reportedly being treated for depression and was overworked, if so, the details thereof and the reasons for not taking it into account; and

(e) whether the BSF is suffering from a shortfall of troops amounting to around 17000 non-officer rank soldiers and 288 officers and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRI NITYANAND RAI)**

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. Two incidents of fratricide have taken place, one in Amritsar (Punjab) on 06.03.2022 and the other in Murshidabad (West Bengal) on 07.03.2022. In Amritsar incident, a Constable opened indiscriminate fire from his official weapon on his colleagues in General

Diary office and Other Ranks Barrack at Battalion Head Quarter. Five BSF personnel received bullet injuries out of which four succumbed to death during their treatment in hospital. The accused Constable also succumbed to death during treatment probably due to ricochet of bullet fired from the weapon. In the second incident at Border Outpost (BOP) Kakmarichar of 177 Battalion in Murshidabad, a Head Constable shot dead another Head Constable and subsequently, he shot himself to death.

In both cases, FIRs have been registered under Section 302 IPC & Sections 25/27 of Arms Acts with the Local Police. Such incidents are also investigated through departmental 'Staff Court of Inquiry' to ascertain the exact cause of the incident and other related issues.

The causative factor in most of such incidents are generally personal and domestic problem, family issues, depression and work related issues. To identify relevant risk factors as well as relevant risk groups and suggest remedial measures for prevention of suicides/fratricides in CAPFs, Ministry of Home Affairs have constituted a Task Force under the chairmanship of Special Secretary (Internal Security) which includes representatives from all CAPFs. The measures undertaken to promote mental health and well-being of Jawans in CAPFs are given in Annexure.

(c): The next of Kin (NOK) of the deceased Force personnel in such incidents are eligible for following monetary compensation in addition to applicable pensionary benefits:-

(i) Rs.30 lakh to NOKs of each of the personnel under Golden Jubilee Seema Prahari Kalyan Kawach Scheme.

(ii) Rs.25 lakh as ex-gratia compensation to all the jawans who lost their lives except those who committed the incident and subsequently committed suicide.

(d): As per available records and Annual Medical Examination held on 19.02.2022, the medical category of the accused Constable of Amritsar incident was SHAPE-I.

(e): As on 01.03.2022, there are 357 vacancies in the Officers grade and 22,558 vacancies in the below Officers grades. Filling up of vacant posts is an ongoing process through prescribed mode of recruitment viz. direct recruitment, deputation and promotion. All efforts are made to fill up vacant posts expeditiously.

Measures are taken/being undertaken to promote the mental health and wellbeing of the jawans in the CAPFs/ARs.

- (i) Transparent policies pertaining to transfer and leave of CAPFs and AR personnel. Choice posting is considered to the extent possible after the personnel served in hard area. The hospitalization period due to injuries while on duty is treated as on duty.**
- (ii) Regular interaction of officers with troops to find out and redress their grievances.**
- (iii) Ensuring adequate rest and relief by regulating the duty hours.**
- (iv) Improving living conditions for troops, providing adequate recreational/ entertainment, sports, communication facilities etc. Crèche facility is also provided at various establishments (where feasible) to facilitate the female employees.**
- (v) Facility of retention of government accommodation at the place of last posting (for keeping the family) while posted in NE states, J & K and LWE affected areas (except State Capitals).**
- (vi) Providing better medical facilities as well as organizing talks with specialists to address their personal and psychological concerns and organizing Meditation & Yoga routinely for better stress management.**
- (vii) Adequately compensating the troops deployed in difficult areas.**
- (viii) Other welfare measures like facilities of Central Police Canteen (CPC), scholarship for wards etc. Air courier service has also been provided to CAPF personnel deployed in NE States, J&K and LWE affected areas as welfare measure.**
- (ix) Designating retired CAPF personnel as ex-CAPF personnel for better identity and community recognition.**
- (x) To reduce the stress level of CAPFs/ARs personnel, various steps have been taken by the MHA, CAPF & ARs. As part of the process, the “Art of Living” courses are being conducted for CAPFs/AR personnel which have positive impacts on the Jawans.**
- (xi) Promotions are released regularly to eligible personnel as & when the vacancies arise. Financial benefits under Modified Assured Career Progression (MACP) are given at 10, 20 & 30 years of service in case promotion does not take place for want of vacancies.**