GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-5719

ANSWERED ON- 04/04/2025

VANDALIZATION OF HINDU TEMPLES IN USA

5719. SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:-

(a) whether it is true that a Hindu Temple was vandalized in California's Sacramento by miscreants;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also true that another desecration of a Hindu temple in New York was also reported ten days earlier;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the details of the reasons and the people behind these incidents; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government to protect Hindu temples in the US in particular and in other countries in general?

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ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

(SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH)

(a to f) Yes. In recent months, there has been a rise in the number of instances of Hindu temples being defaced with anti-India graffiti in the United States of America.

The Government of India accords highest priority to the welfare, safety and security of Indian citizens and the Indian community abroad. All incidents of attack and vandalization of temples and places of worship are immediately taken up with the host Government through diplomatic channels.

The respective temple management authorities and community associations have also registered complaints with the local law enforcement authorities and have called for proper investigations, and stringent action against those responsible for these acts, and for providing the places of worship with adequate safety and security arrangements.

The U.S. law enforcement authorities have conveyed that all such cases of vandalization of temples / places of worship are being investigated as hate crimes. Members of the U.S. Congress have also urged the concerned security agencies to come up with a broader strategy to counter hate crimes targeting Hindus in the United States.

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