

[22 December, 1999]

RAJYA SABHA

Infiltration of Lashkar-E-Tbiba into Kargil

2174. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH:

SHRI RAMACHANDRAIAH RUMANDLA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Lashkar-e-Toiba are fighting India for control of Kashmir and its members were among those two infiltrated into Kargil; and

(b) if so, the action taken against their activities as well as the activities of ISI?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) Lashkar-e-Toiba (LET), the militant wing of religious organisation Markaz-Dawat Wal Irshad" headquartered in Pakistan, whose cadres consist mostly of foreign militants are actually involved in the ongoing militancy in the State of J & K.

(b) Government is aware of the sinister designs of the Pak sponsored militant organisations as well as of Pak ISI to destabilise India by sponsoring terrorism and subversive activities in different parts of the country including its efforts to infiltrate terrorists and to target and train misguided youths for engineering violence. A close and continuous watch is, therefore, being kept on the situation and all necessary efforts, including improved border management and sustained operations against terrorists and subversive elements, are being made to ensure that such designs are not allowed to succeed. Government have taken several steps which include inter-alia sensitising and gearing up of the intelligence machinery, sharing of intelligence and coordinated action by concerned Central and State agencies, upgrading of technical equipment with the security forces and increasing the number of check post.

ISI Activities in Districts

†2175. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Pakistan supported I.S.I, activities have intensified over past few years;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto;

(c) whether Government have identified those districts where it's activities have intensified; and

(d) if so, the details regarding the total number of such districts, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) to (d) Despite the set-backs to ISI's activities in J & K, Punjab and other parts of the country, there is no let up in its efforts to destabilize the country.

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.