

(e) if so, the steps Union Government proposes to take to ensure safety in high rise buildings across the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b) A fire broke out at the Punjab National Bank building, Parliament Street, Patel Chowk, New Delhi on 23.05.2012 at 1641 hrs. The fire was brought under control and the fire was completely extinguished at 1855 hrs. The fire was restricted to the place of origin, viz. Ground floor, and only the property at ground floor *i.e.* furniture, electrical equipments and bank records were affected.

(c) The building was constructed prior to 1983 and was issued NOC under the provisions of Delhi Fire Prevention and Fire Safety Act 1986 and Delhi Fire Prevention and Fire Safety Rules 1987. After the fire incident, the inspection was conducted on 24.05.2012 and the shortcomings were communicated to the management on 05.06.2012 for rectification at the earliest.

(d) High-rise buildings authorizedly constructed in Delhi have clearance from the Delhi Fire Service after the enforcement of Delhi Building Bye-Laws-1983. the buildings constructed prior to 1983 were also inspected under the provisions of Delhi Fire Prevention and Fire Safety Act 1986 and Rules 1987 and issued NOC after verifying the compliance of the provisions.

(e) The Government of Delhi has enacted Delhi Fire Service Act 2007 and Delhi Fire Service Rules 2010, which are more comprehensive legislation concerning fire and life safety in high-rise buildings in Delhi and the said Act and Rules have come into force with effect from 01.07.2010. The construction of high-rise buildings in Delhi has, therefore, would be better monitored from fire safety point of view. The said Act and Rules also require renewal of Fire Safety Certificate after every three years for Commercial buildings and after 5 years for Residential buildings. In addition to this these also require submission of form 'K' declaring the operability and availability of the fire prevention and safety measures under law.

Kashmiri youths joining militancy

2710. SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that after lull for sometime, Kashmiri youths are joining the ranks of militancy in a big way;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has taken any step to stop this trend;
- (d) whether it is also a fact that the youths are joining either the Hizbul Mujahideen or Lashkar-e-Toiba; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI JITENDRA SINGH): (a) and (b) Reports received from Central Agencies indicate that some Kashmiri youth have joined militancy. During the year 2012 only 14 youths of the Valley have reportedly joined militant groups.

(c) The Government has adopted various counter terrorist methods to neutralise the efforts and capabilities of militants and to watch the activities of those supporting such groups. The Government has also encouraged policies to mainstream the youth and discourage them from joining militancy.

(d) to (e) Out of 14 Kashmiri youths who have reportedly joined militant groups during the year, 5 youths have joined Hizbul Mujahideen (HM) and 9 have joined Lashkar-e-Tayyaba (LeT).

Infiltration across border in Jammu and Kashmir

2711. SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that infiltration by militants across the border in Jammu and Kashmir have increased in recent past;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has taken up measures to stop these infiltration;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI JITENDRA SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Details of infiltration attempts and successful infiltration during this year upto 31st July, 2012 and the corresponding period in the last year is given below: