

Coastal Police Stations and jetties in Puducherry

1102. SHRI N. GOKULAKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that three Coastal Police Stations and two jetties are proposed in Puducherry under Phase-II of the Coastal Security Scheme;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that only 2.4 crores have been released for this purpose;

(c) what is the total amount required for 3 stations and 2 jetties; and

(d) by when these are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI KIREN RIJU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) A sum of ₹ 2.44 crore has been released to the UT Administration of Puducherry, which includes ₹ 1.44 crore for construction of three Coastal Police Stations (CPSs) (@ ₹ 48 lakh per CPS) and ₹ 1.00 crore for two jetties (@ ₹ 50 lakh per jetty). Construction of one CPS and one jetty has already been completed. Land for two CPS has been identified and construction work will commence after floating required tenders by PWD, Puducherry. Remaining one jetty is under construction. UT Administration of Puducherry has been advised to complete construction of the remaining CPSs/jetty expeditiously.

Measures to prevent terrorist attacks

1103. SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether keeping in view the recent attack in Bangladesh by terrorists, Government has taken any measures to prevent such attacks in our country particularly for West Bengal which is the State of the country nearest to Bangladesh; and

(b) the details of the action taken by Government to strengthen the safety and security of the people of India by avoiding such incidents in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) In order to counter terror activities, there exists a close and effective coordination between intelligence and security agencies at the centre and the States level, which has resulted in the busting of many terror modules in the country including ISIS/ISIL phenomenon.

The Islamic State (IS)/Islamic State of Iraq and Levant (ISIL)/Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS)/Daesh has been notified as a Terrorist Organization and included in the First Schedule of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967 by the Central Government. The outfit uses both positive and negative imagery to attract recruits from across the world. However, it has influenced/attracted very few youth from India.

The ISIS is using various platforms to propagate its ideology. The intelligence and security agencies maintain a close watch to identify potential recruits and take further action, if necessary.

In order to assess the threat posed by ISIS/ISIL and to devise a national strategy to deal with it, meetings have been held by the Ministry of Home Affairs with all the central agencies concerned and the State Governments on 01.08.2015 and 16.01.2016 respectively.

The Government is taking all necessary measures to counter the incipient threat posed by the ISIS.

(b) In order to deal with the internal security challenges and to strengthen the safety and security of the people of the country, the Government of India has taken various counter terrorism measures which, *inter-alia*, include the following:

- Augmenting the strength of Central Armed Police Forces;
- Establishment of NSG hubs at Chennai, Kolkata, Hyderabad and Mumbai;
- Empowerment of DG, NSG to requisition aircraft for movement of NSG personnel in the event of any emergency;
- Tighter immigration control;
- Effective border management through round the clock surveillance and patrolling on the borders;
- Establishment of observation posts, border fencing, flood lighting, deployment of modern and hi-tech surveillance equipment;
- Upgradation of intelligence setup;
- Strengthening the coastal security;
- Amendments to the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967 in 2008 and 2012 to strengthen the punitive measures to combat terrorism;
- The creation of the National Investigation Agency under the National Investigation Agency Act, 2008 to investigate and prosecute offences under the Acts specified in its Schedule;
- Establishment of the National Intelligence Grid (NATGRID) with an intention

to link data bases for collecting actionable intelligence to combat terrorism and internal security threats.

- Amendments to the Prevention of Money Laundering Act in 2009 to *inter alia*, include certain offences under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, as predicate offence;
- Raising of the issues of Cross-Border Terrorism in all its manifestations including its financing in various multi-lateral and bilateral fora as part of India's zero Tolerance Policy towards terrorism.

Repeal of AFSPA

1104. SHRI C. P. NARAYANAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government will consider repealing Armed Forces Special Powers Act (AFSPA) imposed in different parts of the country for a long time now as Supreme Court has observed that indefinite deployment of armed forces under this Act mocks at our democratic process;

(b) whether Government will resort to discussion of contentious issues in order to defuse terrorism in such areas and to bring them back to the path of democracy; and

(c) whether Government will ensure democratic and peaceful ways of resolving disputes and strengthening democracy in the country through negotiations rather than by use of force?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI KIREN RIJJU): (a) AFSPA is reviewed periodically in States of North East and Jammu and Kashmir. An objective assessment of the ground situation is made in consultation with security agencies and the concerned State Governments.

(b) and (c) The Government has been talking to all the groups and organisations who abjure violence and are willing to talk within the framework of the constitution of India. At present Government of India is talking to ULFA, NDFB (P) and NDFB (RD), NSCN (IM), KNO, UPF and other organisations.

Payment of EPS contribution

1105. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is likely to come out with a definition for the term 'new employees' for implementing its budget promise of footing the bill for pension scheme contribution in a bid to create more formal sector jobs;