

(d) the details of preventive steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government to check such ceasefire violations at international border areas in the future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE): (a) and (b) Details of ceasefire violations during last one year are as under:-

Ceasefire Violations along Line of Control (LoC) and International Border (IB) under operational control of Army (from 25.11.2015 to 26.11.2016)	Ceasefire Violations along IB under operational control of BSF (from 1.11. 2015 to 1.11.2016)
216	214

(c) During these ceasefire violations 8 Army soldiers got martyred and 74 were injured. Further, in 2016 (till 7.11.2016) 111 houses/structures got damaged.

There is no permanent dislocation of the people residing close to IB/LoC. However, in 2016, 27,449 persons were evacuated from their villages in Jammu division after the surgical strike in PoK.

(d) Appropriate retaliation to these ceasefire violations has been carried out wherever necessary. All violations of ceasefire are taken up with Pakistan military authority at appropriate level through the established mechanism of hotlines, flag meetings as well as weekly talks between DGMOs of India and Pakistan.

Diplomatically, India has repeatedly emphasised, including at the highest level, the need for Pakistan to uphold the sanctity of the Line of Control (LoC) and the International Border in Jammu and Kashmir as its obligations emanating from the Simla Agreement and the Lahore Declaration.

Mechanism has been instituted at Border Out Post (BOPs) and border areas to expeditiously inform the villagers on occurrence of cross-border firing. Bullet Proof bunkers and ambulances are kept in readiness at convenient locations for evacuation of persons in case of emergency.

Shifting of ammunition dump at Vallah, Amritsar

1482. SHRI SHWAIT MALIK: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering shifting of ammunition dump situated at Vallah, Amritsar due to dense population in surrounding areas as the dump has become dangerous for the residents; and

- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE): (a) No, Sir.

- (b) Location of ammunition depot is strategic and based on operational requirements and, therefore, shifting of ammunition dump is not feasible.

Protest by Ex-Servicemen over OROP

1483. SHRI D. RAJA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact-that the Ex-Servicemen are continuing their protest action for more than a year at Jantar Mantar, Delhi for the implementation of one-rank one-pension (OROP); and

- (b) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction to their demands?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. United Front Movement of Ex-Servicemen is continuing their protest action since 14th June, 2015 for their demands on OROP.

Government has accepted the demands of Ex-Servicemen associations to implement OROP, payment of arrears *w.e.f.* 01.07.2014 and coverage of Premature Retirees (PMR) cases under the scheme upto 07.11.2015. Some Ex-Servicemen Associations have been demanding changes in methodology for fixation of pension, periodicity of its revision, coverage of future PMR cases, etc. The Government appointed a Judicial Committee on OROP to look into the anomalies, if any arising out of implementation of OROP on 14.12.2015. The Committee has submitted its report on 26.10.2016.

Defence MoU with Sweden

1484. SHRI K. SOMAPRASAD: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any defence relationship agreement has been signed between India and Sweden, if so, the details thereof;

- (b) whether there is any MoU in-force with Sweden, if so, details thereof;

- (c) whether any Swedish company is training our technicians for fighter aircrafts; and

- (d) whether there is any role of Saab-a Swedish company in India?