

(b) Witness Protection Scheme, 2018 provides for protection of witnesses based on the threat assessment and protection measures *inter alia* include protection/change of identity of witnesses, their relocation, installation of security devices at the residence of witnesses, usage of specially designed Court rooms, etc.

(c) The Scheme provides for three categories of witness as per threat perception:—

Category 'A': Where the threat extends to life of witness or his family members, during investigation/trial or thereafter.

Category 'B': Where the threat extends to safety, reputation or property of the witness or his family members, during the investigation/trial or thereafter.

Category 'C': Where the threat is moderate and extends to harassment or intimidation of the witness or his family member's, reputation or property, during the investigation/trial or thereafter.

(d) The Scheme provides for a State Witness Protection Fund for meeting the expenses of the scheme. This fund shall be operated by the Department/Ministry of Home under State/UT Government and shall comprise of the following:—

(i) Budgetary allocation made in the Annual Budget by the State Government;

(ii) Receipt of amount of costs imposed/ordered to be deposited by the courts/tribunals in the Witness Protection Fund;

(iii) Donations/contributions from Philanthropist/Charitable Institutions/Organizations and individuals permitted by the Government.

(iv) Funds contributed under Corporate Social Responsibility.

(e) The Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in its Judgment dated 05.12.2018 in Writ Petition (Criminal) No. 156 of 2016 has endorsed the Scheme. As per Article 141/142 of the Constitution, the Witness Protection Scheme, 2018 endorsed in the said Judgment of the Supreme Court is binding on all Courts within the territory of India and enforceable in all States and Union Territories.

#### **Encounters after Pulwama Attack**

1934. SHRI ANIL DESAI:

SHRI SANJAY RAUT:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether in the aftermath of Pulwama attack, a series of encounters have resulted in the killing of a number of terrorists;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether terrorist units have managed to smuggle explosives and Improvised Explosive Device (IED) making material from across the border; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken to plug the loopholes in the transportation of IED material?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY): (a) to (d) Yes sir. The Government has adopted a policy of zero tolerance towards terrorism. As compared to corresponding period of 2018, the first half of this year has witnessed reduction in terrorists initiated incidents by 28%, reduction in net infiltration by 43% and increase in neutralisation of terrorists by 22%. Till date, 93 terrorists have been neutralised by the security forces since Pulwama attack.

Investigation by NIA into the attack so far, has resulted in conspirators, suicide attacker and vehicle provider getting identified. Further the operations on ground have resulted in neutralisation of the conspirator, his associate and the vehicle owner.

**Pending cases under the Protection of Women from  
Domestic Violence Act, 2005**

1935. DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases pending under the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005, State-wise;

(b) the number of such cases pending for more than one year, State-wise;

(c) whether Government has any proposal to issue directions for deciding such cases within six months as has been notified in the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY): (a) National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) compiles and publishes information on crimes in its publication "Crime in India". The published reports are available till the year 2016. The details of State/Union Territory-wise cases pending investigation and trial at the end of the year under the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005 during the period from 2014 to 2016 are given in Annexure.

(b) Specific information on cases pending investigation or trial for more than one year is not maintained by NCRB.