

- (i) Total energy expenditure - 4270 kcal (± 550)
- (ii) Total energy intake from existing rations - 5350 kcal

Thus, it can be seen that the calorific intake from the ration is more than adequate.

(c) and (d) A well established robust mechanism exists to ensure that quality rations meeting the defence food specifications, catering to the troops preference as well as the nutritional requirements are issued at all locations. In Siachen too, quality rations corresponding to the choice of troops, and their nutritional requirement is always ensured.

Attack of Pakistani forces on Indian positions

826. DR. FAUZIA KHAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Pakistani forces have attacked Indian positions since 2014;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with other border violations committed by the Pakistani army on the Indo-Pak Borders during the last six months;
- (c) the details of casualties and other losses suffered on both sides, incident-wise; and
- (d) the reaction of Government thereto and the remedial steps taken to prevent the recurrence of such incidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) and (b) There have been no attacks by Pakistani forces on Indian positions along the Line of Control and International Border with Pakistan. However, Pakistan troops have been resorting to persistent ceasefire violations along the Line of Control. There have been 2453 incidents of Ceasefire Violations along Line of Control in Jammu region in this year (from 01 March to 07 September, 2020). In addition, 192 incidents of cross-border firing have occurred along Indo-Pak International Border in Jammu region in this year (01 March to 31 August, 2020).

(c) There have been 10 fatal casualties of Army personnel occurred along Line of Control/International Border in cross border firing by Pakistani forces in the last six months. The details of casualties of Pakistan side cannot be ascertained accurately.

(d) Appropriate retaliation to the ceasefire violations, as required, has been carried out by Indian Army/BSF. In addition, all the cases of ceasefire violations are

taken up with Pakistan authorities through the established mechanisms of hotlines, flag meetings, Directorate General of Military Operations talks as well as diplomatic channels between the two countries. BSF too holds talks at various levels with its counterpart viz. Pakistan Rangers.

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

COVID-19 cases in armed forces

827. SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) total number of confirmed COVID-19 cases amongst armed forces;
- (b) the total number of deaths so far due to COVID-19 amongst armed forces;
- (c) the steps being taken to ensure that the virus is stopped from spreading in Army barracks;
- (d) the steps taken to enhance the medical facilities available to armed forces;
- (e) whether those medical facilities are equipped to deal with COVID-19 patients; and
- (f) if not, efforts being made to upgrade them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) The total number of confirmed COVID-19 cases amongst serving Armed Forces personnel are 22,353.

(b) As on date, a total of 41 deaths have taken place in the Armed Forces which can be directly ascribed to COVID-19.

(c) To ensure that infected persons do not transmit the infection to susceptible individuals, a 14 days mandatory quarantine period is enforced for all personnel returning from leave or reporting on permanent posting. Those who develop symptoms are immediately tested and if found positive are isolated in healthcare facilities. Active tracing of high risk contacts of these confirmed cases is undertaken and those meeting