

step meant for more accountability and discipline among the rank and file of the group. Besides, it is aimed to engage the entire police force at all levels in a big way for operational assignments. The Special Groups are a part of Executive Police, and are working under the control of District SSP.

(c) Police guards have been provided at residential places of policemen, who are facing threat from terrorists. Well guarded housing colonies for the families of police personnel have also been constructed to save police jawans as well as their families from terrorist attacks. Public Schools run by the police have been established in Jammu/ Srinagar to give better education facilities to the wards of Police personnel in a safe atmosphere.

Extremist activities in J&K

1422. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM:

SHRI T.S. BAJWA:

DR. AKHILESH DAS:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether extremist activities have increased in Jammu and Kashmir after the new Government took over last year;

(b) if so, the comparative data of civilians and jawans killed and the terrorist arrested before and after the new regime; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government recently to help the State Government to curb terrorism?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK): (a) and (b) As per the information provided by the State Government, the comparative data of terrorism related activities in J&K is given below:-

[5 March, 2003]

RAJYA SABHA

	August-October (2002) (Before the formation of new Government)	Nov. 2002-Jan. 2003 (After the formation of new Government)
Civilians killed	284	183
Security Forces killed	171	101
Terrorist killed	491	336
Terrorists/suspects Apprehended	110	92

(c) As a part of conjunctive effort to curb terrorism, in commensurate with a multipronged strategy, the Government continues to provide all possible support to the State Government in terms of financial, manpower, technical and intelligence assistance as per requirement.

Selling of women

1423. SHRI H.K. JAVARE GOWDA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in Madhya Pradesh, the 'Bhil Tribe of Gowdri Village are selling women in public auction as reported in The Week' magazine, dated 26th January, 2003;

(b) if so, the number of women sold, and the details of persons involved in the case and the persons arrested; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to prevent such heinous acts in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) and (b) As per available information, about 30/35 women who had earlier married outside the Bhil community or were not residing with their husbands were forcibly brought to the Panchayat by the Bhil youths and were sold in an auction.

Seven cases were registered in Police Station, Pandhana and 23 persons including the Panchayat office bearers were arrested. 17 of them were later released on bail and the remaining 6 are still in judicial custody.