

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:28
ANSWERED ON:25.07.2000
ATTACKS ON MINORITIES
JAGMEET SINGH BRAR;KAMAL NATH

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the incidents of attacks on minorities, particularly, Christians, and their religious places have increased in the country during the last few years;
- (b) if so, the details of such incidents occurred in the country in 1998, 1999 and till June 2000, State-wise; {
- (c) the details of life and property lost/damaged in each of such incident;
- (d) whether the Government have identified the elements/organisations responsible for these incidents;
- (e) if so, the details in this regard and the instructions issued to the State Governments in the matter;
- (f) the number of persons arrested/punished so far in this connection; and (g) the steps taken by the Union Government to provide protection to the minorities and promote communal harmony in the country?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (I.D. SWAMI)

(a) to (g) : A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to (a) to (g) on Lok Sabha Starred Question No.28.

(a),(b),(c): No Sir, there is no overall increase in the incidents of violence involving the minorities and their institutions in the country during the last few years. However, incidents of violence against Christians and their institutions have increased to some extent. As per available information, statements indicating the details of incidents and persons killed/injured during the period 1998 upto June, 2000 are at Annexures-I & II. The Details of property damaged/destroyed are not maintained by the Central Government.

(d)&(e): With regard to the series of bomb blasts in church premises in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Goa, the involvement of activists of an organisation called the Deendar Anjuman has been established. The State Governments have been requested to provide security to the minorities and their institutions and to deal firmly with the perpetrators of violence against them.

(f): Law and order being a State subject such details are not maintained by the Central Government. However, in connection with the recent incidents of bomb blasts in churches, five activists including Secretaries of the Vijaywada and Hubli branches of the Deendar Anjuman have been arrested so far .

(g): The Central Government has issued detailed revised guidelines for the promotion I of communal harmony and national integration in Oct' 97. Intelligence inputs are shared Iwith the State Governments concerned and alert messages and advisories are sent from time to time. The Central Para Military Forces are made available to them on specific requests and a special force called the Rapid Action Force has been set up to deal exclusively with communal riots. Assistance is also provided for the modernisation of the policing structure. In a high level meeting on 04.07.2000 the situation was reviewed.

Annexure I referred to In Starred Qaestion (Lok sabha) No.28 to be answered on 25/7/2000

INCIDENTS INVOLVING CHRISTIANS DURING 1998,1999 AND 2000 (UPTO JUNE 15)

State	Incidents			Persons Killed			Persons Injured		
	1998	1999	2000	1998	1999	2000	1998	1999	2000

Andhra Pradesh	1	2	5	-	1	-	-	-	23
Arunachal Pr.	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Assam	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bihar	4	4	6	1	4	1	2	-	-
D & N Haveli	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-

