

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1819
ANSWERED ON:20.07.2004
SECURITY LAPSES
Rao Shri Sambasiva Rayapati

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Union Government has ordered an inquiry into the security lapse that led to the death of 28 BSF personnel and their families in J&K IED blast near the Jawahar tunnel on May 5, 2004;
- (b) if so, the outcome of the inquiry;
- (c) the steps being taken to check security lapses and the extent to which security of 300 Kms. Jammu-Srinagar highway is being considered; and
- (d) the steps taken to prevent such incidents in future?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL)

(a) to (d): A Border Security Force (BSF) bus was caught in an IED (Improvised Explosive Device) explosion on 23.5.2004 near lower Munda on the National Highway between Jawahar Tunnel and Qazigund, Distt. Anantnag while moving from Srinagar to Jammu as part of a BSF convoy.

A total of 31 people were killed including 14 BSF personnel and 17 members of their family. Three persons were injured.

A court of Inquiry ordered into the incident by CRPF, held one Assistant Commandant, two Head Constables and three Constables of CRPF responsible for not performing the ROP (Road Opening Party) duties properly. A case having FIR. No. 119/04 U/S 302,307, RPC, 3 PSS/Act has been registered. The ROP's on this stretch of National Highway is being manned by CRPF. Besides this, Government has directed the concerned authorities of the Security Forces to take measures to make ROP more effective.