

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
HOME AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:198

ANSWERED ON:27.02.2007

PAK FIRING ON BORDER

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**Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Pakistani Rangers opened fire on BSF on international border to give cover firing to militants entering into Indian territory as reported in `The Hindu` dated January 18, 2007;
- (b) if so, the number of such incidents reported during each of the last three years;
- (c) the number of jawans/civilians killed and injured in these incidents; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to stop militant infiltration into the country and check the recurrence of such incidents in future?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIS. REGUPATHY)

- (a) : On 17 Jan 2007, at about 0250 hrs, Pak Rangers of Post Jhung opened unprovoked fire on the BSF patrolling party of BOP Matkula to support the infiltration bid from Jammu International Border which was foiled by alert BSF troops.
- (b) : No firing incidents have been reported during the years 2004, 2005 and 2006. However, there have been two firing incidents in the year 2007 (till 20.2.2007)
- (c) : Two BSF personnel got injured in Pak firing incident of 17 January 2007.
- (d) : Strong protest notes have been lodged with counterpart on the unprovoked firing and attempt of infiltration. The issue has also been raised during Indo-Pak Bi-annual meeting held from 14 to 17 Feb 2007. Moreover, the following steps are in place for effective border domination and to check the infiltration. Smuggling of drugs, arms, and contraband goods :-
  - (i) Round the clock surveillance of the border by patrolling during day and night, Ops and ambushes.
  - (ii) Construction of fencing and flood lighting and protective bunds.
  - (iii) Conduct of special operations.
  - (iv) Upgradation of BSF Intelligence set up and coordination with concerned agencies.
  - (v) Use of night vision devices.
  - (vi) Augmentation of strength for patrolling/ambush duties.