

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:747

ANSWERED ON:24.11.2009

COMMUNAL VIOLENCE

Shekhar Shri Neeraj;Singh Shri Sushil Kumar;Sivasami Shri C.

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether several cases of communal violence/rioting have been reported in the country;
- (b) if so, the total number of such cases registered and action taken against the accused, cases being pursued/ closed by trial courts during each of the last three years and the current year separately, State-wise including National Capital Territory of Delhi;
- (c) whether the National Integration Council has submitted any report on communal riots;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and reaction of the Government thereto;
- (e) whether the Government has any proposal to reconsider the Bill on `The Communal Violence (Prevention, Control and Rehabilitation of Victims) Bill, 2005`; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI AJAY MAKEN)

(a) & (b): The number of communal incidents in the country in the last three years and during 2009 is at Annexure.

`Police1 and `Public Order3 being State subjects under the Constitution of India, the primary responsibility of registration of crimes and taking action against the accused rests with the State Governments. Data regarding number of cases registered in communal incidents in each State and the status of trials against the accused in such cases is not maintained! and compiled centrally.

(c) & (d): A Working Group was set up by the National Integration Council under the Chairmanship of the Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs. It examined the reports of the Inquiry Commissions on communal riots and made certain recommendations. The recommendations, inter alia, included improving intelligence, undertaking police reforms and modernization, regulating the routes of religious processions and use of loud speakers, regulating construction of places of worship, monitoring communal violence cases, constituting Peace/ MohsJla Committees, providing adequate and timely compensation to the victims of communal violence, taking preventive measures by district administration, effecting electoral and judicial reforms, promoting communal harmony, undertaking educational reforms, etc. fits suggestions/ recommendations have been forwarded to the State Governments and concerned Central Ministries/ Departments for taking suitable action.

The Ministry of Home Affairs has issued revised Guidelines on Communal Harmony in June 2008 to all States/ Union Territories covering the recommendations made by the working group.

(e) & (f): The Bill titled `The Communal Violence (Prevention, Control and Rehabilitation of Victims) Bill, 2005` was introduced in the Rajya Sabha on 05-12-2005 and was referred to the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Home Affairs. The Committee submitted its Report on 13-12-2000 to the Parliament. After necessary inter-Ministerial consultations, and the Government decision thereon, notices were given in March, 2007, December 2008 and February 2009 in the Rajya Sabha for moving the official amendments and for consideration and passing of the Bill. However, the Bill could not be taken up on these occasions. Fresh notices are proposed to be given in the Rajya Sabha in due course.