GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OFHOME AFFAIRS RAJYA SABHA QUESTION NO30.11.2005 ANSWERED ON

SUICIDES BY SOLDIERS OF SECURITY FORCES.

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the incidents of committing suicides by soldiers of security forces are rapidly increasing in the wake of not sanctioning their leave etc. by their senior officials;
- (b) if so, the details of such cases which have taken place during the last year;
- (c) whether any scheme has been formulated by Government to prevent such incidents; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

(SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL)

- (a):No, Sir.
- (b):81 cases of suicides in Central Police Forces and 133 suicide cases in Armed forces have been reported during the year 2004.
- (c) & (d):To address the common causes of suicides-duty related stress, mental depression, domestic problems, marital discord and chronic illness, as determined through various studies in the security forcesthe following steps are taken:-
- i) Regulate duty hours and periodically rotate personnel from hard areas to soft areas within the constraints of operational requirements.
- ii) Regular participation of personnel in sports competitions and recreational activities.
- iii) Communication facilities for personnel in the remote areas to keep in touch with their families.
- iv) Regular interaction by officers with personnel through Sammelans, visit to forward areas etc.
- v) Introduction of stress removal techniques like Yoga and Vipasana.
- vi) Introduction of welfare measures such as canteen facilities, loan from welfare funds etc.