GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. *102

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 28TH JULY, 2021/ SRAVANA 6, 1943 (SAKA)

SAFETY AND ECONOMIC WELL BEING OF KASHMIRI PANDITS AND OTHER MINORITIES

*102. SHRI SANJAY RAUT:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that many Kashmiri Pandits have become insecure in the last few years and they fear they could be target of a false flag operation;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and Government's response thereto;
- (c) the number of Kashmiri Pandits and Dogra Hindu families currently staying in the Valley and their demands to Government; and
- (d) the details of steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government for the safety and economic well-being of the minorities in Kashmir, especially the non-migrant Kashmiri Pandits, Sikhs and Shias?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI NITYANAND RAI)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NUMBER *102 FOR 28.07.2021

(a) & (b): As per the report of Relief Office setup in 1990 by the Government of Jammu and Kashmir, 44,167 kashmiri Migrant Families are registered who had to move from the valley since 1990 due to security concerns. Out of these, the count of registered Hindu Migrant families is 39,782.

Kashmiri Pandits have felt more secure in the recent past as evident from the fact that 3841 Kashmiri Migrants youth have moved back to kashmir and have taken up jobs in various districts of Kashmir under the Prime Minister's rehabilitation package. Another 1997 candidates have been selected for jobs under the same package in April, 2021, and they will be moving to Kashmir soon. It is also pertinent to mention that as many as 26684 kashmiri Migrant youth showed interest for going back to valley by applying for the above referred 1997 posts, which were advertised by the Jammu and Kashmir's recruitment Board in December, 2020. The Government has also prepared a comprehensive policy to provide residential accommodation to these Kashmiri migrants who have moved back to Kashmir. 6000 residential units are being constructed for them at an accelerated pace. Already, 1000 residential units are being used by these employees.

(c) & (d): Approximately 900 such families, including Kashmiri Pandits and Dogra Hindu families, are residing in Kashmir.

As regard, those who never migrated from Kashmir, the government allowed their inclusion in the Jobs package for Kashmiri Migrants.

Besides, they are getting all benefits of Government schemes along with others in Kashmir.

The Government has taken necessary steps to protect the life and property of the people. These include proactive operations against terrorists, identification and arrest of over ground workers/ supporters of terrorism, action against members of banned organizations, intensified night patrolling checking at Nakas, security arrangements through appropriate deployment, coordination meetings amongst intelligence agencies, maintaining high level of alertness etc.
