GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS RAJYA SABHA QUESTION NO 1200 ANSWERED ON 26.07.2017

NSG operating without helicopter

1200 Smt. Wansuk Syiem

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

- (a) whether the National Security Guard, India's counter-terror force, set up in 1984, had opened regional hubs, prompted by 26/11 Mumbai terror attacks, in Mumbai, Hyderabad, Chennai and Kolkata to reduce reaction time;
- (b) whether the NSG requires air mobility to cover short distances in case of terror attack and if so, whether the force is operating without a helicopter for the past two years, with both of its helicopters having been grounded earlier; and
- (c) whether Government would address this pressing issue early to keep the NSG combat ready at short notice?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI KIREN RIJIJU)

(a) to (c): Government has established four Regional Hubs; one each at Mumbai, Hyderabad, Chennai and Kolkata in 2009. In 2016, the Government has also approved establishment of one Regional Hub at Gandhinagar in Gujarat.

Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) exist for integrated air support to National Security Guard by the coordinated efforts of Indian Air Force, Aviation Research Centre & Border Security Force Air Wing for training and operational purposes. Government has also delegated powers to DG, NSG for impressments of civil aircraft for transportation of NSG troops in emergency situations.
