



## Ministry of External Affairs

Government of India

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# QUESTION NO.417 ATTACKS ON MINORITIES IN BANGLADESH

July 21, 2016

RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.417  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 21.07.2016

## ATTACKS ON MINORITIES IN BANGLADESH

417. SHRIMATI WANSUK SYIEM:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India is watching closely the incidents of brutal attacks on minorities in Bangladesh recently killing a Hindu priest and a Buddhist monk in Jhenaidah and Banderban;
- (b) whether militants of Islamic State and Al-Qaeda have come out brazenly against minority communities in Bangladesh; and
- (c) whether India has made known its concern to Bangladesh over the incidents, if so, details thereof?

ANSWER  
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
[GEN. (DR) V. K. SINGH (RETD)]

(a) to (c) Yes. India has been closely monitoring incidents of targeted attacks on various members of the minority communities of Bangladesh over the past few months. The primary responsibility for protection of life and liberty of all citizens of Bangladesh, including the minorities, rests with the Government of Bangladesh. This issue has thus been taken up with the Bangladeshi authorities on various occasions, including the highest political levels. During our bilateral interaction, the Bangladeshi authorities have assured us that they take these attacks very seriously and are fully committed to bringing the perpetrators to justice. The Bangladesh authorities have also conveyed that their investigations into past attacks suggest that these are the handiwork of local radical and terrorist outfits. The Government has

publicly reiterated its firm commitment to root out terrorism and militancy from Bangladesh.

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