

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO-337
ANSWERED ON-13.02.2014

Forcible conversion of Hindus in Pakistan and Bangladesh

337 . Shri Sanjay Raut

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn towards the recent reports of forcible conversion of Hindus and increase in assault cases in Pakistan and Bangladesh; and

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
(SHRI SALMAN KHURSHID)

(a) & (b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (A) & (B) OF RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.*337 REGARDING "FORCIBLE CONVERSION OF HINDUS IN PAKISTAN AND BANGLADESH" FOR ANSWER ON 13.02.2014.

Government has from time to time come across reports of problems being faced by members of minority communities in foreign countries including, in Pakistan and Bangladesh, of Hindu minorities.

It is the primary responsibility of the respective foreign Governments to discharge their obligations towards all their citizens including those that belong to their minority communities. Based on reports of persecution of minority groups in Pakistan, Government has taken up the matter with the Government of Pakistan. The Government of Pakistan has stated that it was fully cognizant of the situation and looked after the welfare of all its citizens, particularly the minority community. There have also been reports of problems being faced by members of minority communities including Hindus, in Bangladesh from time to time. The Government of Bangladesh has been reiterating its commitment to safeguarding the

minority rights within the legal framework of Bangladesh's constitution.
