

Extortion by Naxalites

‡485. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the naxal violence affected States of Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Andhra Pradesh, Orissa, Bihar, West Bengal and Maharashtra have a reign of "Red Empire" from where the naxalites extort around Rs. 1500 crores;

(b) if so, the fact in this regard;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the Home Minister of Maharashtra has also confirmed an increase in the spate of naxal violence;

(d) whether it is also a fact that these naxal activities have international nexus; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): (a) and (b) Available inputs indicate extortion from contractors, businessmen, industrialists, transporters, etc., in naxal affected States of Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Andhra Pradesh, Orissa, Bihar, West Bengal and Maharashtra. Exact quantum of extortion is not known.

(c) There has been an increase in naxal violence in Maharashtra.

(d) and (e) Available inputs indicate that the Left Wing Extremist groups, particularly, the CPI (Maoist) maintain fraternal links with communist parties of several countries. Government is maintaining a close watch on the situation and takes appropriate action as are necessary.

Criteria for funding erosion under CRF and NCCF

486. SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that erosion caused by diversion of rivers and river channels which has uprooted lakhs of families throughout the country and the huge loss of fertile cultivable and habitable land are not considered as calamity or disaster entitled for funding under CRF and NCCF; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and how this calamity has been categorized for adequate relief, rehabilitation and reclamation of land?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b) The issue of inclusion of specific calamities in the list of identified natural calamities for the purpose of incurring expenditure from Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) comes under the purview of the successive Finance Commissions. The 12th Finance Commission, the Award of which is in operation during the years 2005-10, had also *inter-alia* considered the proposal for inclusion of soil erosion and changes in course of rivers, however not recommended as one of the calamities qualifying for assistance from Calamity Relief Fund and National Calamity Contingency Fund.

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi