

(b) There are no reports of violent activities perpetrated by the Maoists in Manipur. None of the police stations in the State of Manipur has been captured by Maoists.

(c) Some inputs indicate that few banned outfits are trying to forge linkage with Maoists. Efforts of the State Government are being supplemented by the Central Government through various measures such as deployment of additional Central Security Forces to aid the State authorities; financial assistance for strengthening of the local Police Forces and intelligence agencies under the Police Modernisation Scheme, reimbursement of Security Related Expenditure; assistance to the States for raising of additional Forces in the form of India Reserve Battalions; etc.

#### **CISF personnel to guard biometric machines**

660. SHRI SHYAMAL CHAKRABORTY:

SHRI MOINUL HASSAN:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether CISF personnel have been instructed to guard biometric machines at offices of the Ministry to prevent any possible attempt at tampering;

(b) if so, whether attempt has been made earlier without CISF guards to keep records of attendance of officers and other staff in Government offices;

(c) if so, the result thereof; and

(d) if not, on what basis Government is apprehending tampering of machines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) The Government Building Security (GBS) Unit of the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) which looks after security of the Government buildings, has been instructed to ensure security of the biometric attendance control machines installed by Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) in its offices, in which MHA is housed, namely, North Block, Jaisalmer House and Lok Nayak Bhawan. This has been done to ensure that the system is not tampered with.

(b) to (d) Prior to the introduction of the Biometric Attendance Control System, the attendance of the employees was maintained through Attendance Registers for which there was no requirement of any kind of guarding by the CISF. Since the Attendance Machines have now been installed, as a measure of caution, the GBS unit of CISF, which is already providing security to MHA, has been asked to guard the Machines from tampering.

#### **Maoist activities spreading in West Bengal**

661. SHRI SAMAN PATHAK: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Maoist activities are increasing rapidly in some areas of West Bengal;

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Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, whether the State Government has sought the help of Central Government to tackle the naxal menace;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI AJAY MAKEN) :

(a) to (d) There has been an increase in the incidents in naxal violence in West Bengal during the current year. Following the violence in Lalgah, 17 companies (Coys) of CRPF, 7 Coys of BSF and 4 teams of CoBRA have been additionally provided to the Government of West Bengal to assist in their anti-naxal operations. During 2008-09, Rs.32.18 crore was released as Central share under the Scheme for Modernization of Police Forces (MPF).

The Central Government also provides assistance to the State Governments, *Inter alia* through sanction of India Reserve (IR) battalions, assistance in training of State Police through Ministry of Defence, Central Police Organisations and Bureau of Police Research and Development and sharing of intelligence. The Central Government also assists the State Government development works through a range of schemes of different Central Ministries.

The CPI (Maoist), which is the major Left Wing Extremist organization responsible for most of the incidents and casualties of naxal violence in the country has been included in the schedule of terrorist organizations along with all its formations and front organizations on 22nd June, 2009, under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967.

#### **Demand from Russia for relaxing visa rules**

¶662. SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has directed to strictly abide by the visa rules to check the arrival of disguised extremists and terrorists on business and professional visa;

(b) whether this has created a hurdle for arrival of such people who were engaged in special works and projects or who are coming in near future;

(c) whether Government of Russia has demanded for relaxation in these rules; and

(d) whether any action is under consideration in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) and (b) It has come to the notice of the Government that a number of foreign nationals coming for execution of projects/contracts in India have come on Business Visa instead of the Employment Visa. The matter has, therefore, been reviewed by the Government and has been decided that

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¶Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.