

National Policy to tackle Naxal Menace

20. SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Chief Minister of three States-Orissa, Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh had sought during the Chief Ministers' Conference in Hyderabad on 20th September, 2004 formulation of a national policy on tackling Naxals;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Centre thereto; and

(c) the details of the assistance being given/proposed to be given to the Naxal affected States particularly Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka by the Centre?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) The issue of having a national policy to combat Naxalism was discussed in the Chief Ministers Conference held on 21.9.2004 at Hyderabad. The States were advised to pursue a multi pronged strategy which essentially includes having a peace dialogue by the affected States, wherever feasible, with naxal groups willing to abjure violence, accelerated socio-economic development of naxal groups affected areas, prompt redressal of public grievanes and modernization of State police forces to take sustained and effective police action, wherever the possibility of a peace dialogue does not exist. The Centre will continue to provide all possible Central assistance to the affected States in this regard.

(c) To enable the States to undertake more effective anti-naxalite action, the Ministry of Home Affairs is providing financial assistance under the Security Related Expenditure (SRE) and the Police Modernisation (PM) Schemes. While a sum of Rs. 47.77crores has so far been reimbursed to Andhra Pradesh under the Security Related Expenditure (SRE) Scheme, Rs. 230.54 crores have been given under the Police Modernisation (PM) Scheme, during 2000-01 to 2002-03. Besides, 55 naxal affected districts including 8 districts of Andhra Pradesh have been covered under the Backward Districts Initiative (BDI) scheme which provides Rs. 15 crores per district per year for 3 years starting from 2003-04, to fill in the critical gaps in physical and social infrastructure. The total amount under BDI Scheme comes to Rs. 2475 crores. In addition, for 55

naxal affected districts additional funds amounting to Rs. 68.00 lakhs per distt. have been given for construction of roads under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY). The State of Karnataka has been given assistance of Rs. 234.75 crores under the PM Scheme during 2000-01 to 2002-03. Also, the State of Karnataka, for the first time, has been invited to attend the meeting of the Coordination Centre (CC) on naxalism scheduled on 4.12.2004 at New Delhi.

Effect of Maoists Activities on School going children

† 21. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that children are reluctant to go to schools because of kidnapping of children by Maoists in Jharkhand and some other parts of the country;

(b) the areas where as per Government's information Maoists are active; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken by Government to check Maoist menace?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) No such reports have come to the notice of the government.

(b) Presently, 55 districts in the nine States of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Chhatisgarh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal are badly affected by naxal violence. Besides, reports have been received of naxal influence spreading to certain parts of Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Kerala and Uttaranchal.

(c) The Central Government has adopted a multi pronged strategy to tackle the problem of naxalism which includes (a) having a peace dialogue by the affected States, wherever feasible, with naxal groups willing to abjure violence, (b) modernization and strengthening of the State Police forces, long term deployment of Para Military forces, intensified intelligence based well-coordinated anti-naxalite operations, (c) focused attention on integrated development of the affected areas

† Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.