

(b) whether Government is of the opinion that by abducting leaders and Government Officials, the naxalites could raise such demands and whether Government has given into this practice as a policy; and

(c) the number of Maoists lodged in jails in Orissa and the time to be taken in completion of their trial?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT):

(a) to (c) As per inputs, the Left Wing Extremists after abduction of Shri R. Vineel Krishna, Collector and District Magistrate, Malkangiri and Shri Pabitra Mohan Majhi, Junior Engineer, raised a number of demands to the Government of Orissa for releasing the abducted officers. These demands were pertaining to socio-economic issues and release of certain LWE activists. The Government of Orissa agreed to consider these demands on merits. Subsequently, the abducted officers were released by the Left Wing Extremists.

'Police' and 'public order' being State subjects, action with respect to maintenance of law and order lies primarily in the domain of the State Governments concerned, who deal with the various issues related to naxalite activities in the States.

#### **Delay in police reforms in the States**

2241. SHRI TARUN VIJAY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the status of the Police reforms in the States and reasons of delay;

(b) the number of IPS officers who went abroad officially, without authorization, their purpose, expenditure incurred since 2006, the action prescribed for such contravention and the actions initiated on such IPS;

(c) the officers on whom action is awaited and the reasons for delay;

(d) the number and basis of complaints received against IPS officers from States and action taken since 2007; and

(e) the number of IPS promoted on whom an inquiry was initiated and who were culpable under service rules?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT):

(a): 'Police' being a State subject in the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India, it is the State

Government/UT Administration which have to implement the various police reforms measures. The Centre can at best persuade the States from time to time to bring the requisite reforms in the Police Administration to meet the expectations of the people. Review meetings had been held from time to time. The Model Police Act drafted by Soli Sorabjee Committee has been circulated to all States on 31st October, 2006 for information and appropriate consideration. As per available information, States of Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Kerala, Punjab, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Tripura and Uttarakhand have either enacted police legislation or amended their existing Police Act. Police Reforms is an ongoing process.

(b) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

**Journalists in NE facing human rights abuses by security forces**

2242. SHRI KUMAR DEEPAK DAS: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of journalists killed in the North-East during the last three years and the State-wise details of official enquiry attempted into their death;

(b) whether the journalists in the North-East are facing in the midst of insurgencies, human rights abuses by the security forces;

(c) if so, the details thereof along with action taken thereon; and

(d) the remedial measures taken by Government and other concerned agencies in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) to (c) Four journalists have been killed in North-Eastern States (3 in Assam and one in Manipur) during the last three years, by suspected militants/unknown miscreants. Some of the journalists killed were also found having links with militant outfits. Cases have been registered by the State Governments concerned/Central Bureau of Investigation for investigating the matter. Except some isolated incidents, no significant instance of human rights abuses of Journalists by the security forces have come to notice.

(d) The Government has deployed Central Para-Military Forces to aid the State authorities for carrying out counter insurgency operations and providing security for vulnerable institutions and