

(a) whether it is a fact that Maoists are now using sophisticated weapons like INSAS and AK 47 rifles and explosives to fight security forces;

(b) if so, whether Government have made any assessment about the number of armed naxalites and arms and ammunition acquired by them and if so, the details thereof;

(c) the country wherefrom they had procured these arms and what is Government's reaction thereto; and

(d) whether Government have formulated any policy to tackle this problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) The naxal groups are reported to have looted sophisticated weapons including some INSAS and AK 47 rifles from the security forces. They continue to use IEDs/landmine blasts to kill civilians and security forces.

(b) As per available information, the present strength of armed naxalite cadres is about 7200 and their arms holding is estimated to be about 5450.

(c) There are not reports to suggest that Indian naxal groups are getting arms from abroad.

(d) The Government has been pursuing a multi-pronged approach to address the problem on political, security and development fronts in a coordinated manner.

Deployment of Hi-Tech surveillance weapons on borders

3430. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Ministry has approved a proposal for deployment of hi-tech surveillance weapons on the international borders;

(b) if so, whether Ministry plans to install global positioning system sets in all the vehicles carrying Central Security Forces engaged in operation to maintain internal security;

(c) whether Ministry is also laying emphasis on fencing and flood lighting work on the international borders; and

(d) what is the latest position in this regard in Jammu and Kashmir, Punjab and Rajasthan including Manipur that was taken recently?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) The Government have decided to deploy hi-tech surveillance equipment on the International Borders of the country which would act as force multiplier for effective management of the borders.

(b) As per modernization Plan, Central Security Forces have been acquiring global positioning system which can be used in vehicles also.

(c) The Government have accorded top priority to the work of construction of fencing and flood lighting on Indian-Pakistan and India-Bangladesh borders.

(d) While fencing and flood lighting works in Punjab and Rajasthan have been completed, it is nearing completion along Jammu International Border. Construction of 734 kms of fencing along Line of Control (LoC) has been completed. The Government have also decided to undertake fencing in approximate 10 kms stretch in Moreh in Manipur sector of India-Myanmar border which is yet to commence.

Firing at borders

†3431. **SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGGARWAL:** Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pakistan forces have been firing towards the posts of the Border Security Force and the villages on the International Border of Jammu;

(b) the number of firing incidents that have taken place during the last three years till now;

(c) the year-wise/location-wise class of property suffer during the above mentioned period and the amount of compensation paid to the affected families; and

(d) the number of jawans of Border Security Force and civilians killed or injured on account of unprovoked firing from across the border during the above mentioned duration?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.