

**Naxalite activities hurdle in attracting investment in Odisha**

1180. SHRI BALBIR PUNJ : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Naxalite activities are a major hurdle in attracting fresh industrial/ other investment in Odisha;
- (b) if so, whether Government is planning to take serious steps against Naxalite activities; and
- (c) if so, the details of the steps taken and proposed to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI JITENDRA SINGH) : (a) No specific input are available to indicate that maoist activities are creating major hurdle in attracting industrial investment in Odisha. However, the CPI (Maoist) have a planned strategy of carrying out attacks on the vital organs of the state including its economy. Maoist violence disrupts the economic activity in the affected areas. Some of their activities which adversely affect the economy are as under:

- (i) Intimidation of contractors, businessmen and industrialists in LWE affected areas.
- (ii) Damage to economic infrastructure like Railways, Roads, Communication facilities, Mining, School Buildings etc.
- (iii) Targeting/damage of the infrastructure of Public Sector Undertakings.
- (iv) Opposition to development activities like irrigation projects, road construction projects etc.
- (v) Burning of vehicles and construction machinery of contractors etc. involved in various projects.
- (vi) Extortion from businessmen and industrialists.

(b) and (c) '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. The Central Government has a holistic approach towards combating LWE

wherein it supplements the efforts of the State Governments over a wide range of issues including deployment of CAPFs, assistance in implementation of development schemes, improving governance and capacity building by the States in various areas. It is the belief of the Government of India that a combination of calibrated police action, focused development efforts and improvement in governance will yield the desired results against LWE. The state Government of Odisha has taken a number of steps in this direction which includes enhancing the capacity of security forces by creating specialized forces like the Special Operations Group (SOG), Special Intelligence Wing (SIW), Special Security Battalions, India Reserve Battalions, Odisha Special Striking Force (OSSF), District Volunteer Force (DVF) etc.; In addition, continuous upgradation of security infrastructure; intensification of anti-Maoist operations to dominate the affected areas; securing the roads of strategic importance are also part of the overall strategy.

#### **Status of Malegaon bomb blast case**

1181. SHRI SABIR ALI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the current status of the Malegaon bomb blast case of 2008 in which Lieutenant Colonel Prashad Shrikant Purohit was supposedly involved; and

(b) whether Abhinav Bharat, an organization has been found involved in the conspiracy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI JITENDRA SINGH) : (a) Charge sheet under Sections 302, 307, 326, 324, 427, 153A r/w 120B of IPC, r/w Sections 3, 5 and 25 of Arms Act r/w - 15, 16, 17, 18, 20, and 23 of Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967 amended in 2004 r/w 3 (1) (i), 3 (1) (ii), 3 (2), 3(3), 3 (5) MCOC Act, 1999 r/w sections 3, 4, 5 and 6 of Explosives Substances Act has been filed by ATS Maharashtra on 28.01.2009 and continued further investigation under Section 173 (8) of Cr. PC and further filed a supplementary charge sheet on 21.04.2011. Currently the case is under investigation by National Investigation Agency.

(b) Yes, Abhinav Bharat has been suspected to be involved in the conspiracy involved.