

Fresh targets of naxal groups

1559. SHRI DEVDAS APTE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state whether it is a fact that naxal groups have identified 31 new districts in the States of Jharkhand, Orissa and Andhra Pradesh as their fresh targets?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): As per available information, some districts in Orissa and some other States are reported to be targeted by the naxal groups.

Specialized institutes for disaster management

1560. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any proposal from States for setting up specialized institutes for disaster management;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and university-wise;

(c) the action proposed to be taken by Government;

(d) whether any proposal is under consideration to set up such an institute in Andhra Pradesh; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) to (e) Under an existing scheme being operated by this Ministry, financial assistance upto a maximum of Rs. 15 lakh per year is being provided to Administrative Training Institutes/State Institutes of Rural Development, or other training institutes/University, designated by the State Governments, for operation of a Faculty of Disaster Management in such institutes. At present, 29 training institutes/university designated by the State Governments in 28 States are being provided financial assistance under this scheme. The Government of Orissa had, in December, 2002 proposed that the National Institute of Disaster Management (NIDM) be located at Bhubaneswar/Puri. The Government of Andhra Pradesh had, in November 2003, proposed that the NIDM be located at Hyderabad. The State Governments were informed that in view of the need for close interaction between the Ministry of Home Affairs and NIDM,