

Upgradation of Odisha Fire Training Institute

1023. SHRI RABINARAYAN MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state whether there is any plan for upgradation of Odisha Fire Service Training Institute, Bhubaneswar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): Based on the proposals received from various State Governments regarding Strengthening of fire Services in their respective States, the XIIIth Finance Commission recommended a sum of Rs. 150 crore to Odisha to be utilized for provision of fire services in the State, which includes upgradation of the Fire Service Training Institute Bhubaneswar.

Mobile tower project hit in Maoist States

1024. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the mobile tower project in 9 Maoist hit States has stuck over cost issues;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is a fact that Government has asked the concerned to expedite the case at the earliest; and
- (d) if so, the response received by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH): (a) and (b) In order to improve the connectivity in Left Wing Extremism affected areas, the Ministry of Home Affairs has proposed to install 2199 mobile towers in 9 LWE affected States, which do not have coverage by any service provider. The Scheme is proposed to be funded by the Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) and will be executed by the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL), on nomination basis. Out of 2199 towers, 363 towers have already been installed. Further action has been initiated by the Department of Telecommunication for approvals in this matter.

(c) and (d) This is one of the priority area for the Ministry of Home Affairs as dependable communication system is one of the crucial missing links for development of LWE affected areas. The Ministry of Home Affairs has been taking