

Inclusion of Kalahandi in worst LWE affected districts

1940. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR SWAIN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government of Odisha has requested the Union Government for inclusion of Kalahandi district under the category of worst LWE affected districts;

(b) if so, what steps have been taken in this regard;

(c) whether it is a fact that Government of Odisha has requested the Union Government for enhancement of the bandwidth of the mobile towers installed in the State under Left Wing Extremism (LWE) Scheme; and

(d) if so, what steps have been taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY): (a) to (b) Yes, Sir. The State Government of Odisha has requested for inclusion of Kalahandi under the category of most LWE affected districts. Inclusion/exclusion of districts under the category of most LWE affected districts is a ongoing process. The last review was undertaken in 2018 and based on the overall LWE situation and violence profile, 30 districts have been categorised as most LWE affected districts *w.e.f.* 01st April, 2018. Kalahandi district has not been categorised as the most LWE affected districts but is covered under Security Related Expenditure (SRE) scheme.

(c) and (d) 2335 towers were installed in Mobile Tower Project Phase-I, of which 256 were in Odisha. The issue of up-gradation was mainly for VSAT sites. On request from the State, capacity of all 104 VSAT towers in Odisha has been enhanced to 2 Mbps.

Naxalite attacks on civilians and security personnel

1941. SHRI RAJMANI PATEL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether cases of naxalite attacks on civilians and security personnel have increased during the last few months;

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

(c) the corrective steps taken/being taken by Government to tackle such attacks by naxalites along with the achievements thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY): (a) to (c) No Sir. There has been a consistent decline in both LWE violence and geographical spread of LWE influence. Violent incidents have declined from a high of 2258 in 2009 to 833 in 2018. The resultant deaths have also declined steadily from 1005 in 2010 to 240 in 2018. The reduction in geographical spread of Left Wing Extremism is evident in decline in number of districts reporting violence to 60 in 2018. The trend of decline in violence has continued in 2019. The number of incidents of violence and resultant deaths in 2019 as compared with the corresponding period of 2018 is as under:—

Sl. No.	Parameters	2018 (01 Jan. to 15 June)	2019 (01 Jan. to 15 June)
1.	No. of incidents	447	338
2.	Deaths (Civilians & SFs)	126	102
3.	No. of Security Forces kills	41	38

To combat the LWE menace in a holistic manner, the Government of India has formulated a National Policy and Action Plan in 2015, which envisages a multi-pronged approach comprising security, development and ensuring rights and entitlements of local communities etc.

MHA is supporting the State Governments extensively by way of deployment of CAPF Battalions, provision of helicopters and UAVs and sanction of India Reserve Battalions (IRBs)/Special India Reserve Battalions (SIRBs) etc. Funds are provided under Modernisation of Police Force (MPF), Security Related Expenditure (SRE) Scheme and Special Infrastructure Scheme (SIS) for capacity building of State Police, intelligence agencies and CAPFs.

Development interventions are made through provision of resources and focused implementation of schemes through line ministries of Government of India. Significant efforts have been made for improving infrastructure in LWE affected areas. 5500 km of roads out of 11000 planned have been constructed. For improving telecom connectivity, 2335 mobile towers have been installed and 4072 mobile towers will be installed in next phase of the project.

To provide further impetus to development and fill critical gaps in infrastructure, funds are provided to the State Governments under 'Special Central Assistance' (SCA) scheme @ ₹ 33.33 crore per annum per most affected district.