

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1825**

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 10th MARCH, 2021/ 19 PHALGUNA, 1942 (SAKA)

LEFT WING EXTREMISM PROBLEMS IN ODISHA

1825. SHRI BHASKAR RAO NEKKANTI:

Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government of Odisha has sent a list of 483 locations to the Government of India for installation of mobile towers in the Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected areas of the State under Phase – II of the 'Mobile Connectivity Scheme' in LWE affected areas;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) the status of the installation of these mobile towers;**
- (d) whether the State Government of Odisha has requested the Union Government for extension of Special Infrastructure Scheme (SIS) up to the financial year 2022-23; and**
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by Government in this regard?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY)**

(a to c): Yes Sir.

Improvement of telecom connectivity in Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected areas has been one of the major development interventions of the Government of India.

Towards this end, 2335 mobile towers have been installed under Phase-I of the Scheme with 256 towers installed in Odisha.

Phase-II of the scheme has been approved with a project cost of Rs. 7330 crore for 4072 mobile towers in 10 LWE affected States.

483 tower locations of Odisha are included in Phase-II, which is at tendering stage.

(d & e): Special Infrastructure Scheme (SIS) is being implemented in LWE affected States including Odisha for enhancing capacity of Special Forces and Intelligence wings of the State Police forces along with construction of 250 Fortified Police Stations (FPS). The Scheme, initially approved for the period 2017-18 to 2019-20, has been extended till 2020-21.
