GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2297

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 9^{TH} AUGUST, 2023/ SRAVANA 18, 1945 (SAKA) NAXALISM IN THE COUNTRY

2297 DR. LAXMIKANT BAJPAYEE:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps taken by Government to prevent Naxalite organisations from recruiting children; and
- (b) the number of naxalite related incidents and deaths that happened in the country during last five years?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI NITYANAND RAI)

(a): As per Seventh Schedule of the Constitution of India, subjects of Police and Public Order are with the State Governments. However, to address Left Wing Extremism (LWE) menace holistically, Government of India (GoI) approved 'National Policy and Action Plan to address LWE' in 2015 envisaging a multi-pronged strategy involving security related measures, development interventions, ensuring rights and entitlements of local communities etc. Steadfast implementation of this policy has resulted in consistent decline in LWE related violence and it's geographical spread.

Gol has enacted the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015 (JJ Act) for children in distress situation including children in conflict with law (CCL) and children in need of care and protection (CNCP). As per provisions of JJ Act, a child who is victim of or affected by any armed conflict, civil unrest or natural calamity, is included as a "child in need of care and protection", among others. The Act mandates a safety net of service delivery structures including institutional and non institutional care mechanisms, to ensure the best interest of children.

As per the JJ Act, any non-state, self-styled militant group or outfit declared as such by the GoI, if recruits or uses any child for any purpose, shall be liable for criminal prosecution.

Ministry of Women and Child Development is implementing a centrally sponsored Child Protection Services (CPS) scheme, for supporting the States/Union Territories (UTs) in providing a framework for care and protection of children in distress conditions. Under the scheme, institutional care is available for CNCP and CCL, including provisions for boarding, lodging and holistic development of children. The scheme also

provides for non-institutional care wherein support is extended for adoption, foster care and sponsorship. The primary responsibility of implementation of the scheme rests with the States/UTs.

(b): During the period from 2018 to 2023 (till 15 July 23) there were 3,544

LWE related incidents and 949 deaths. Year-wise details are as under: -

Year/Parameter	Incidents	Deaths
2018	833	240
2019	670	202
2020	665	183
2021	509	147
2022	413*	98
	118**	
2023	273*	79
(till 15 July 23)	63**	

^{*} Incidents perpetrated by Left Wing Extremists

Since 2022, data is maintained separately for number of incidents perpetrated by Left Wing Extremists and incidents initiated by Security Forces.

^{**} Incidents initiated by Security Forces