

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2001**

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 5TH AUGUST, 2026/ SHRAVANA 14, 1948 (SAKA)

DEVELOPMENT RELATED MEASURES IN LEFT-WING EXTREMISM AFFECTED AREAS

2001 # SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any development related measures have been undertaken by Government in Left-Wing Extremism affected areas;

(b) if so, the details of the actions taken by Government during the last five years;

(c) whether Government has any scheme for the rehabilitation of surrendered left-wing extremists cadres; and

(d) if so, the details of the provisions of the scheme?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b) :

(i) To address the problem of Left Wing Extremism (LWE) holistically, a “National Policy and Action Plan to address LWE” was approved in 2015 by the Government of India which focuses on ‘Whole of the Government’ approach. It envisages a multi-pronged strategy involving security related measures, development interventions, ensuring rights and entitlements of local communities etc. The resolute implementation of this policy has led to eradication of Left Wing Extremism from the country.

(ii) On development front, apart from the flagship schemes of the Government of India (GoI), several LWE specific initiatives have been taken with special thrust on expansion of road network, improving telecommunication connectivity, education, skill development and financial inclusion in these areas. A few of these initiatives undertaken on development front during last five years are enumerated below:

- For expansion of road network, over 8600 km have been constructed under 02 LWE specific schemes namely Road Requirement Plan (RRP) and Road Connectivity Project for LWE Affected Areas (RCPLWEA).**
- To give impetus to the development of the erstwhile most LWE affected districts, funds are provided for filling critical gaps in public infrastructure under 'Special Central Assistance (SCA) Scheme'. Since Financial Year 2021-22 to till now, approximately ₹1690.95 crores have been released to the States. Under this Scheme, Government of India (GoI) has also approved 127.08 km critical roads and 06 critical bridges to be constructed by the Border Road Organisation in the erstwhile LWE affected areas of Chhattisgarh state.**
- For improving telecom connectivity in erstwhile LWE affected areas, 9533 4G towers have been commissioned.**
- For Skill Development, 22 Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) and 36 Skill Development Centres (SDCs) have been opened.**

- **For quality education in tribal areas, 60 Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRS) have been made functional.**
- **For financial inclusion, Department of Posts has opened 1122 Post Offices with banking services in areas freed from Left-Wing Extremism. Also, 279 Bank Branches and 121 ATMs have been opened in these areas.**
- **To improve healthcare access in the Bastar region of Chhattisgarh, a 240-bed Super Specialty Hospital at Government Medical College, Jagdalpur, established under the Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana (PMSSY), has been made operational. With this facility healthcare services have now been brought closer to the people of Bastar, reducing the need for patients to travel to distant cities for treatment.**
- **For ensuring rights and entitlements of local communities, 5,04,145 title deeds have been distributed to beneficiaries (4,67,567 individual titles and 36,578 community titles). To further strengthen local self-governance in the erstwhile LWE affected areas, the Ministry of Home Affairs is carrying out joint planning with the Ministry of Panchayati Raj. These measures reflect the Government's commitment towards strengthening community rights and enhancing participatory governance in areas freed from LWE.**

(iii) The Ministry of Home Affairs has also conducted a survey in seven erstwhile LWE affected districts of south Chhattisgarh to assess the extent of saturation of various government welfare schemes, developmental initiatives and the potential for livelihood generation through an independent agency. The survey has collated details of education levels, health indicators, and the availability of basic services such as primary schools, anganwadi centres, and secondary health facilities etc. Insights of the survey are helping the Union Home Ministry and the State Government in fulfilling the objective of bridging the developmental gaps and ensuring livelihood.

(iv) To engage youth and local communities in a constructive manner, the GoI implements the Tribal Youth Exchange Programme (TYEP), under which tribal youths from erstwhile LWE-affected areas are taken on week-long exposure visits to different parts of the country. The Programme provides them an opportunity to interact with people from diverse regions and backgrounds, thereby promoting national integration, enhancing awareness of India's rich cultural diversity, and providing exposure to the country's industrial and developmental progress. Since 2021 total 23,672 tribal youths have participated in TYEP.

(v) Further, under the Civic Action Programme, GoI provides funds to CAPFs for undertaking various welfare-oriented activities in their operational areas, including medical camps, sports competitions and distribution of essential items among local communities. Under this scheme, approx. Rs. 100 crores

have been released from FY 2021-22 to till date. This has immensely helped in bridging the gap between the security forces and the local population.

(vi) As a result of measures mentioned above, the country became free from the Left Wing Extremism, which was once considered one of the biggest threats to the Internal security of this country. This has been achieved with resolute implementation of the "National Policy and Action Plan to address Left-Wing Extremism" 2015 and the coordinated efforts of Centre and State governments. At present, no district is categorized as LWE affected. Presently, 38 districts are categorized as 'Legacy & Thrust' districts, which are no more LWE affected, but continued support in respect of security and development measures is required for some more time to consolidate the position and to preclude any possibility of their relapse.

(vii) In post-LWE scenario, the focus is on saturation of government welfare programmes, strengthening local self-governance, facilitating the rehabilitation of surrendered cadres, preservation of tribal identity and culture and expanding the reach of governance and public services in remote areas.

(viii) Further, following the eradication of Left-Wing Extremism (LWE), one-third of the security camps in LWE-free areas are being converted into Jan Suvidha Kendras. These Kendras will provide a range of services, including livelihood promotion, skill development, access to government schemes, digital services, healthcare, and cultural and sports facilities to local

communities. The first Jan Suvidha Kendra has been established at Netanar, Jagdalpur in Bastar, Chhattisgarh, as 'Shaheed Veer Gundadhur Seva Dera Kendra'.

(ix) Overall, Gol is committed to ensuring security and accelerated development of erstwhile LWE affected districts of the country.

(c) & (d):

To encourage the Left Wing Extremists to join the mainstream, Gol and State Governments have formulated comprehensive surrender-cum-rehabilitation policies. The Gol supports the States in the endeavour through 'Surrender-cum-Rehabilitation' Policy as part of Security Related Expenditure (SRE) Scheme. The Gol reimburses the expenditure incurred by the LWE affected States on rehabilitation of surrenderees under the SRE Scheme. The rehabilitation package inter-alia, includes an immediate grant of Rs. 5 lakh for higher ranked LWE cadres and Rs 2.5 lakh for other LWE cadres. In addition, incentives for surrender of weapons/ammunition are also provided under the Scheme. Provision also exists for imparting training in trade/vocation of their liking with monthly stipend of Rs. 10,000/- for three years. The guidelines of the surrender-cum-rehabilitation policies is at annexure-I.

**GUIDELINES FOR SURRENDER-CUM-REHABILITATION SCHEME OF LEFT WING
EXTREMISTS IN THE AFFECTED STATES**

1. INTRODUCTION:

The Surrender and Rehabilitation policy has been framed keeping in mind the specific geographical and social landscape to help those Left Wing Extremists (LWEs) who want to abjure violence, surrender and join the mainstream. It is part of a multi-pronged conflict management and resolution strategy and is required to be implemented along with firm legal action by the police against those who follow the path of violence. The Policy aims at providing gainful employment and entrepreneurial opportunities to the surrendered LWEs so that they are encouraged to join the mainstream and do not return to the fold of the LWE movement.

2. OBJECTIVE:

The objectives of these guidelines for surrender-cum-rehabilitation of LWEs in the affected States are:

- a) to wean away the hardcore LWE cadres who have strayed into the fold of LWE movement and now find themselves trapped in that net.
- b) to ensure that the LWE cadres who surrender do not find it attractive to join the LWE movement again.

Note: Tactical surrenders by those elements attempting to utilize the benefits extended by the Government to further their vested interests should not be permitted under the Scheme.

3. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA:

- a) The guidelines are applicable to those LWE cadres who surrender with or without arms.
- b) The eligibility of such LWE cadres for assistance under the scheme would be scrutinized by a Screening-cum-Rehabilitation Committee constituted by the State Government concerned.
- c) The benefits of the scheme shall not be available to a surrenderee who has already surrendered and benefited under the existing surrender/rehabilitation scheme of any of the LWE affected States. Hence, the State Level Screening Committee should consult other LWE affected States before finalizing their cases.

4. BENEFITS UNDER THE POLICY:

- a) **Grant:** An immediate grant of Rs.5.0 lakh for Higher ranked LWE cadres like (i) State Committee Members (ii) Regional Committee Members (iii) Central Committee Members (iv) Politbureau Members and Rs.2.5 lakh for middle / lower ranked LWE cadres like (i) Area Commanders (ii) Sub-Zonal Commanders (iii) Zonal Commanders (iv) any hardcore LWE cadres identified by the State Screening-cum-Rehabilitation Committee, shall be kept in a bank in the

name of the surrenderee as a fix deposit, which may be withdrawn by the surrenderee after completion of 3 years, subject to good behavior certified by the authorities designated for this purpose by the State concerned. This money can also be utilized as collateral security/margin money against loans to be availed of by the surrenderee from any bank for self-employment.

** States may effectively utilize the provisions of the scheme and in case of any specific quality surrender, wherein a State consider higher amounts necessary beyond the stipulated limits, State(s) may send proposal separately to Ministry of Home Affairs for consideration.*

b) The following additional incentives are included for surrendered weapons/ ammunition:

S.No.	Weapons	Incentive
1.	LMG/GPMG/Pika/RPG/Sniper Rifle/Rocket launcher/Similar Weapon	Rs.35000 per weapon
2.	AK 47 /55/74 Rifles	Rs. 25000 per weapon
3.	Pistol/Revolver/SLR/Carbine/StenGun/.303	Rs. 10000 per weapon
4.	Rockets	Rs. 1000 per rocket
5.	Grenade / Hand grenade / Stick grenade	Rs. 500 per grenade
6.	Remote Control Device	Rs. 3000 each device
7.	Ammunition of all types	Rs. 3 per round
8.	IED	Rs. 1000 each
9.	Mines	Rs. 3000
10.	Explosive Material	Rs. 1000 per kg.
11.	Wireless Set (a) Short Range (b) Long Range	Rs. 1000 per each set Rs. 5000 per each set
12.	Satellite Phone	Rs. 10000
13.	VHF / HF Communication sets	Rs. 5000
14.	a) Electronic Detonators b) Other Detonators	Rs. 50 Rs. 10

Note:- The incentive given for the surrender of the aforesaid arms shall be deposited in the form of a Fixed Deposit in the name of the surrenderee, which may be withdrawn by the surrenderee after completion of 3 years, subject to good behaviour certified by the authorities designated for this purpose by the States concerned.

c) The persons eligible under the scheme will be initially lodged in a rehabilitation camp where they will be imparted training in a trade/vocation of their liking or befitting their aptitude. They shall be paid a monthly stipend of Rs. 10000 each for a maximum period of 36 months. However, if the surrenderee secures any employment in the Government, the monthly stipend will be discontinued.

5. **Handling of weapons:** The State should develop a mechanism for safe storage of weapons ammunitions surrendered by the LWE cadres.

6. Procedure for screening/identification and rehabilitation of LWE cadres.

6.1 The Screening-cum-Rehabilitation Committee consisting of the following will be involved in process of identification and rehabilitation of surrendered LWE cadre:-

- (i) ADG/IG (Int./Special Branch/CID) will act as the 'Surrender and Rehabilitation Officer (S&R Officer)' under the scheme.
- (ii) Representative of State Home Department.
- (iii) Representative of State Police
- (iv) Representative of Central Armed Police Forces.

6.2 A LWE cadre shall be free to surrender before any unit of the CAPFs, District Magistrate, the District SP, the range DIG, the IG (Ops), the IG (Special Branch), the DIG (Special Branch), the SP (Special Branch), the SDM, the Sub Divisional Police Officer and other notified officers. The officers for this purpose shall be notified by the State Governments. A LWE cadre may also surrender before any unit of the Army or the CAPFs outside the State. The officer receiving the surrenderee shall send the details as informed by the surrenderee filled up in prescribed proforma to the S&R officer. The S&R officer will get the antecedents of the LWE cadre verified from authorities/organizations concerned.

6.3 The officer receiving the Provisional Surrender will provide immediate security to the surrenderee and after getting necessary details for filling up the requisite proforma, send him to the transit camp to be maintained by the S&R Officer. The decision about the acceptance or otherwise, of the surrenderee should be taken within 15 days.

6.4 Parameters for Screening procedure:

(a) The LWE cadre who surrenders should be a bona-fide LWE cadre as defined as para-4(a) and should surrender in accordance with the comprehensive surrender and rehabilitation policy being implemented by the concerned State Government.

(b) The S&R authority designated by the State Government concerned for the purpose should ensure that the surrenderee is a genuine LWE cadre. The Surrendered LWE cadre should make a clear confession of all the criminal acts committed by him/her including names of planners and other participants, name of financiers, harbourers, couriers, details of the LWE organizations, arms/ammunition and the property looted/distributed/disposed of, by the LWE cadre and the organization to which the LWE cadre belongs.

6.5 On receipt of verification reports from the authorities/organizations concerned regarding the activities of the surrendered LWE cadre, the Screening Committee headed by S&R Officer would formally consider the surrender of the LWE cadre and if accepted, transfer him/her to the rehabilitation camp.

6.6 The surrenderee lodged in a rehabilitation camp will be imparted training/vocation of their liking of befitting their aptitude. The State Government shall provide funds of monthly stipend to the S&R Officer latest by every 5th day of the month for disbursement.

7. Court cases: Trial of heinous crimes committed by the surrenderee may continue in the courts. The States may also consider withdrawal of prosecution on a case to case basis depending upon the antecedents and merits of the individual surrenderee. For minor offences, plea bargaining could be allowed at the discretion of the State Authorities. The State may consider providing free legal services / advocate to the surrendered LWE cadre as per the policy of the State concerned. Fast Track Courts may be constituted by the States for speedy trial of cases against the surrenderees.

8. Rehabilitation Process: The State Government would designate a senior officer in the Home Department as **Rehabilitation Officer (RO)** for the rehabilitation of the surrenderees. The RO will coordinate with all the departments of the State Government for rehabilitation of surrenderees by way of employment/self-employment by utilizing the grant of Rs.5 lakh and Rs.2.5 lakh provided under the Scheme, if necessary.

9. Reimbursement of expenditure on rehabilitation by Government of India: The Government of India will provide 60% reimbursement for the expenditures incurred by the States on rehabilitation of surrenderees under the Security Related Expenditure (SRE) Scheme subject to a ceiling of Rs. 5 lakh for higher ranked LWE cadres and Rs. 2.5 lakh for lower rank LWE cadre and for weapons & ammunition as stated as para-4 above or actual expenditure incurred by the State Government whichever is less. In addition, the monthly stipend of Rs. 10000 for a maximum period of 36 months to be paid to the surrenderee while undergoing training in the rehabilitation camp, will also be reimbursed by the Central Government under the SRE Scheme. The expenditure incurred by the States on this account subject to the ceiling limits will be reimbursed on sharing basis with funding pattern of 60(Centre):40(State) as per the 'Security Related Expenditure (SRE)' for LWE affected States Scheme, guidelines. Accordingly reimbursement by the Central Government (MHA) will be made for 60% of the expenditure subject to the limits specified.

10. Inspection of the rehabilitation Centre's and records by Government of India: The Government of India shall have the right to inspect any of the camps set up for rehabilitation or transit and to verify any record in this regard.

11. Date of effect of the scheme:

The Scheme will be valid till 31.03.2026.

12.Impact Assessment of the guidelines:

The Ministry of Home Affairs may review these guidelines periodically in consultation with the concerned State Governments and take appropriate corrective action, if required.