GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. *41

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 06TH FEBRUARY, 2018 / MAGHA 17, 1939 (SAKA)

CENTRAL ARMED POLICE FORCES

*41. SHRI KALIKESH N. SINGH DEO:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Odisha has requested the Union Government for induction of two additional Battalions of Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs) for deployment in the districts like Malkangiri and Nuapada to contain Left Wing Extremist (LWE) activities;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the steps taken by the Union Government in this regard;

(c) whether the State Government of Odisha has also requested for inclusion of Kalahandi district under the category of 'Worst LWE affected District', if so, the details thereof and the steps taken in this regard;

(d) whether the State Government of Odisha has further requested for enhancement of the bandwidth of the mobile towers installed in the State under LWE Scheme; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken in this regard?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR)

(a) to (e) : A Statement is laid on the table of the House.

STATEMENT IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. *41 FOR ANSWER ON 06.02.2018 REGARDING CENTRAL ARMED POLICE FORCES

(a): Yes, the Government of Odisha has requested for two additional battalions of CAPF for deployment in LWE affected districts.

(b) At present, 08 battalions of CRPF, 08 battalions of BSF and 01 battalion of CoBRA are deployed in Odisha for assisting the State Police in anti-LWE operations. The deployment of CAPFs in LWE affected States is a dynamic process based on the situation, availability of forces and other ground realities.

(c): The Government of Odisha has requested for inclusion of Kalahandi district under the category of 'Worst Affected LWE Districts'. The level of violence in the district does not warrant inclusion of the district under the category.

(d) & (e): The Government of Odisha has requested for enhancement of bandwidth of mobile towers installed in the State. DoT has approved in Dec 2017, enhancement of bandwidth from 512 kbps to 2Mbps at all VSAT sites under Phase-I. This includes all 144 VSAT sites of Odisha.

* * * * * * * *