

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4452**

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 23RD MARCH, 2021/ CHAITRA 2, 1943 (SAKA)

RECRUITMENT OF CHILDREN BY NAXAL GROUPS

4452. SHRI VISHNU DAYAL RAM:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether reports of children being used/recruited by naxal groups have been brought to the notice of the Government during the last three years;

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

(c) whether the Government has implemented Schemes/Programmes for rehabilitation of the said children;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the details of steps being taken by the Government to bring the extremists/naxalites into the mainstream of the society?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (b)

(i) There have been some reports of CPI (Maoist) inducting children in their outfit in Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh, using them for cooking, carrying daily use materials and collecting information regarding movement of Security Forces. They are also imparted military training.

(ii) As per Seventh Schedule of the Constitution of India, subjects of Police and Public Order are with the State Governments. Therefore, State Governments initiate legal action on case-by-case basis in such matters.

(c) to (d): Central Government 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 mandated 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 Central Government, 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/ 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, inter alia. 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 State/ UTs.

(e): To encourage Left Wing Extremists to join the mainstream, States have their own surrender cum Rehabilitation policies. The Central Government also supports the States in this endeavour through 'Surrender-cum-Rehabilitation' Policy as part of Security Related Expenditure (SRE) Scheme. The rehabilitation package inter-alia, includes an immediate grant of Rs. 5 lakhs for higher ranked LWE cadres and Rs. 2.5 lakhs for other LWE surrendered cadres. In addition, incentives for surrender of weapons/ammunition are also provided under the Scheme. The GOI reimburses the expenditure incurred by the LWE affected States on rehabilitation of surrenderees under the SRE Scheme. In addition provision also exists for training in a trade/ vocation of their liking with monthly stipend of Rs. 6000/- for three years.