GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 395

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 19TH JULY, 2022/ASHADHA 28, 1944 (SAKA) STRENGTHENING OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM

395. SHRI PALLAB LOCHAN DAS:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of steps taken by the Government for modernisation of policing for internal security, law and order, especially in Northeast and Assam;
- (b) the funds allocated by the Government for strengthening the criminal justice system;
- (c) whether it is a fact that violence by Maoists groups or left-wing extremist are declining since the implementation of National Policy and Action Plan; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) 'Police' and 'Public Order' are State subjects under the seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India. State Governments are primarily responsible for modernisation of their police forces. However, the Government of India supplements the efforts of the State Governments towards equipping and modernizing of their police forces, through the scheme of 'Assistance to States for Modernisation of Police' [erstwhile scheme of Modernisation of Police Forces (MPF)].

Under this scheme, the States are provided central assistance for acquisition of advanced weaponry such as latest rifles, all types of intelligence equipment including Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs), Night Vision Devices (NVDs), CCTV surveillance systems & body worn camera systems; modern communication equipment and state-of-the-art equipment for security, training, forensics, cybercrime, traffic policing, etc. Further, 'construction' and 'purchase of operational vehicles' are also permitted in the insurgency affected north-eastern States and Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected districts. Moreover, construction of police station buildings is allowed to all States and UTs from the current financial year.

Besides, for insurgency affected North Eastern (NE) States, including Assam, under the scheme of Security Related Expenditure(SRE), the reimbursement of expenditure incurred by these States on security related items is done. These items include, special training to State police and prison administration personnel for counter insurgency (CI) capabilities, raising of India Reserve (IR) battalions, logistics provided to Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs) /Army units deployed in these States for internal security duties and CI operations, ex gratia grants and gratuitous relief to the victims of extremist violence, part expenditure incurred on petrol, oil and lubricants (POL) in operations, honorarium paid to Village Guard/Village Defence Committee/Home Guards deployed for security purposes etc.

- (b) The Government of India has approved implementation of the Inter-Operable Criminal Justice System (ICJS) project which aims at integration of various pillars of criminal justice system such as Police, Court, Forensic, Prosecution, Prison etc. and also integration of ICJS database with other government databases. The approved cost of the project for implementation during the period from 2022-23 upto 2025-26 is Rs. 3375.00 crore.
- (c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The resolute implementation of the National Policy and Action Plan by the Government has resulted in improvement in the control of Left Wing Extremism (LWE) scenario across the country. The last six years have seen a significant decline in LWE violence as well as the geographical spread of LWE. There has been an overall 53.26% reduction, i.e., from 1089 to 509, in violence incidents and 36.09% reduction, i.e. from 230 to 147, in LWE deaths in the year 2021 as compared to the year 2015.
