GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1589 TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 3RD MAY, 2016/VAISAKHA 13, 1938 (SAKA)

COBRA FORCE

1589. SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of Commando Battalions for Resolute Action (CoBRA) sanctioned/ raised by the Government during the last three years and the current year;
- (b) the total number of posts sanctioned/vacant in the CoBRA;
- (c) whether the CoBRA has been provided with the required ammunitions and weaponry necessary for combat operations and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the funds allocated/utilised in this regard during the said period;
- (e) whether the CoBRA battalions deployed in the Naxal-affected areas have been provided with adequate quarters and ration facilities; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof along with the other facilities provided in this regard?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI KIREN RIJIJU)

(a) No Commando Battalion for Resolute Action (CoBRA) have been sanctioned/raised in the last 3 years. However, ten (10) CoBRA Battalions were sanctioned in 2008-09, which have been raised.

- (b) Total sanctioned posts in CoBRA Battalions are 10609. At present total number of vacancy is 664.
- (c) The CoBRA has been provided with adequate ammunition and weaponry necessary for combat operations. Details of the weapons cannot be disclosed in public interest.
- (d) Funds allotted/utilized during the year 2014-15 to 2016-17 are as under:-

Description	2014-15 (Rs. in lakhs)	2015-16 (Rs. in lakhs)	2016-17 (for two months i.e. April & May, 2016) (Rs. in lakhs)
Allotted	2926.33	3641.88	1045.92
Utilised	2123.28	3572.59	-

(e) to (f) Against total authorization of 2960 family quarters, 2042 family quarters have been constructed. In addition, 596 quarters have been sanctioned for construction. Remaining personnel are accommodated in barracks and pre-fabricated huts. Ration Allowance as per norms are provided to all CoBRA personnel. The CoBRA personnel are also entitled to various allowances like Marine Commandos (MARCOS) Allowance, Kit Maintenance Allowance, dedicated medical facilities, etc. Government has also allowed

retention of Government accommodation at the last place of posting for Central Armed Police Force personnel deployed/posted in Left Wing Extremism affected areas/districts (except State capitals), as notified by the Government from time to time.
