

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
RAJYA SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO.*89

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 11TH DECEMBER, 2013/AGRAHAYANA 20, 1935 (SAKA)

NAXAL THREAT IN WEST BENGAL

*89. SHRI VIVEK GUPTA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Central Government perceives any new naxal threat in West Bengal;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether the Central Government is planning on increasing the amount of schemes such as the Security Related Expenditure (SRE) Scheme and the Scheme for Special Infrastructure (SIS) in the State to fight Left-Wing Extremism (LWE) more efficiently, and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRI R.P.N. SINGH)

(a) to (c): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION No. 89 FOR 11.12.2013.**

(a) & (b): The State of West Bengal has witnessed a complete turnaround in LWE situation since 2011 with violence plummeting to negligible levels. No intelligence inputs are available at present to suggest re-emergence of Maoist insurgency in West Bengal. However, the banned CPI(Maoist) party is making efforts to regroup itself, particularly in the areas bordering Jharkhand. Besides this, the over ground front organizations/supporters/sympathizers of CPI(Maoist) continue their propaganda campaign aimed at mobilization of masses in support of the Maoist movement.

(c): In order to address the security needs of the LWE affected States, including West Bengal, the Central Government has taken a number of steps including deploying CAPFs, providing assistance for capacity building of the States through Schemes like the Security Related Expenditure (SRE) Scheme, the Special Infrastructure Scheme (SIS), the Construction/Strengthening of Fortified Police Stations Scheme, etc. Other security related interventions include providing Helicopters to State Governments for anti-naxal operations, setting up of Counter Insurgency and Anti-Terrorism (CIAT) Schools, assistance to raise India Reserve Battalions (IRB), modernization and upgradation of the State Police and their Intelligence apparatus under the Scheme for Modernization of State Police Forces (MPF scheme), etc.

The Security Related Expenditure (SRE) Scheme, being a reimbursement Scheme, the expenditure is first incurred by the State Governments and thereafter reimbursed by the Central Government after conducting audit in the respective States. The Annual Work Plan under the Scheme is finalized on the basis of proposals received from the State Governments and any increase/ decrease in financial assistance is on the basis of Work Plans submitted by the States. There is no proposal to increase the Central funding under Special Infrastructure Scheme (SIS) to West Bengal. However, considering the present level of LWE threat perception in West Bengal, the Central Government is allocating sufficient resources to deal with the problem in a determined and purposeful manner.
