

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:335

ANSWERED ON:15.04.2008

ASSISTANCE FROM ISRO TO CHECK TERRORIST ACTIVITIES

Mahtab Shri Bhartruhari;Singh Shri Uday

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received any proposal from the Para Military Forces (PMFs) to make use of satellite images from the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) to help the security forces scan hilly terrains and dense forests to effectively penetrate the interiors and pinpoint the hideouts of terrorists and extremists as reported in the `Times of India` dated March 15,2008;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) the names of PMFs to whom Geographical Information System (GIS) is likely to be made available by the Government; and

(d) the extent to which it is likely to be beneficial to the PMFs?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL)

(a) to (d) : Terrorist organizations, including the naxalites, are known to increasingly try and upgrade their technological capabilities. In some areas, they have trained their cadres to carry out guerilla type attacks on security forces and take cover in dense

forests. Security forces, therefore, need to be trained in commando operations and jungle warfare, and to be adequately equipped with weaponry, communication, mobility / equipments and make use of modern technology including GIS based systems to deal with the challenges posed by the terrorists / extremists. In this background, the Government is taking steps, on a continuing basis, for modernisation and upgradation of the capabilities of the security forces. It is not considered feasible or appropriate to comment on the news report cited in the question