GOVERNMENT OF INDIA HOME AFFAIRS LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:25 ANSWERED ON:17.02.2009 MODERNISATION OF POLICE FORCES Adhalrao Patil Shri Shivaji;Thakur Shri Anurag Singh

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the police personnel in various States in the country do not possess adequate and effective weapons to tackle the increasing terrorist and naxalite activities;

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

(c) the steps taken by the Government to modernise police forces in the country?

Answer

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

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

STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 25 FOR 17.2.2009.

(a): "Police" is a State subject as per VII Schedule to the Constitution. As such the primary responsibility to adequately equip their police forces with modern weapons, etc. rests with the respective State Governments.

(b) & (c): The Ministry of Home Affairs has, however, been supplementing the resources of the State Governments for upgradation and modernization of their police forces under the Scheme for Modernization of State Police Forces (MPF Scheme). Under the Scheme, assistance is being provided to the States for procurement of modern weaponry, construction of residential and non-residential buildings, mobility, communication/security/forensic science equipments, strengthening of intelligence branches, training infrastructure and facilities, etc.Under the MPF Scheme the State Governments formulate their requirements, which are considered and approved by Ministry of Home Affairs and funds are released to States.

This central assistance has resulted in a sustained improvement in the procurement of weaponry by the State police forces both in terms of numbers and range of weapons. The number of advanced weapons acquired by the State Police Forces during 2000-2001 to 2006-07 under the MPF Scheme is as under:

S.NO. Weaponry Numbers acquired during 2000-01 to 2006-07

1. INSAS rifles 81262

2. AK-47 rifles 33618

3. 9 mm Carbine 10603

The State Governments include modern weaponry in their MPF action plans as per their own assessed requirements.