

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
HOME AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:38  
ANSWERED ON:13.03.2012  
RECRUITMENT BY NAXALITES  
Ponnam Shri Prabhakar

**Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether there are reports of recruitment of young boys and girls by naxal organizations in the country;
- (b) if so, the details of such cases reported during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise; and
- (c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI JITENDRA SINGH)

(a): Yes, Madam. The Left Wing Extremists groups, particularly the CPI(Maoist), recruit children, both boys and girls, from the tribal belts of naxal affected areas in the states of Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Maharashtra and Odisha. In Bihar and Jharkhand, these children are enrolled in 'Bal Manch' and in Chhattisgarh and Odisha, the children's squad is known as 'Bal Sanghatan'. The idea behind recruiting tribal children is to wean them away from their rich traditional cultural moorings and indoctrinate them into Maoist ideology and force them to become foot-soldiers of Peoples Liberation Guerilla Army of the CPI(Maoist).

(b): There are no precise estimates of total number of children recruited by the CPI (Maoist).

(c): 'Police' and 'Public Order' being State subjects, action with respect to maintenance of law and order lies primarily in the domain of the State Governments concerned, who deal with the various issues related to naxalite activities in the States. The State Governments initiate legal action on case-by-case basis in such matters. The Central Government is also closely monitoring the situation. The National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) has initiated the Bal Bandhu Scheme in some of the worst affected districts to ensure education of children who are likely to be targeted by the CPI (Maoist).