

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6332
ANSWERED ON:15.05.2012
NAXALS IN ABUJHAMAD FOREST AREAS
Raghavan Shri M. K.

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Abujhamad forest area situated on the borders of Maharashtra and Chhattisgarh has become a safe zone for naxalites;
- (b) if so, whether the Government proposes for infrastructure development of the said region in order to provide basic facilities to the inhabitants and also to root out naxals from the said area; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a): Abujhmad is a thickly forested area Narayanpur district of Chhattisgarh on the border of Gadchiroli district of Maharashtra and Kanker and Bijapur districts of Chhattisgarh. It is a CPI (Maoist) stronghold.

(b) to (c): To address development deficit in LWE affected areas, the Central Government is implementing the Integrated Action Plan in 78 selected tribal and backward districts in 9 LWE affected states for providing public infrastructure and services. The Government is also implementing a Scheme namely Road Requirement Plan-I for development of 5477 km of road network in 34 districts in 8 LWE affected states, which includes Narayanpur district. The Planning Commission closely monitors implementation of development and flagship schemes in LWE affected districts. In addition, emphasis is also laid on ensuring rights of Adivasis under the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006.

The Security Forces recently carried out special operations in Abujhmad area after many years.

It is the belief of the Government of India that a two pronged strategy of security and development measures will yield the desired results against LWE in the long run.