

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6225
ANSWERED ON:15.05.2012
FARMING OF POPPY BY NAXALS
Sharma Dr. Arvind Kumar

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware that naxals have now entered into farming of poppy in an organised manner in order to substantially fund their subversive activities;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): No information is available to indicate that the naxalites have directly entered into farming of poppy in an organized manner to fund their activities. However, it is a fact that the CPI (Maoist) tacitly allow poppy/ganja cultivation in order to collect money from such illegal cultivation. The outfit is collecting money from illegal cultivation of ganja and opium in some areas of Odisha, Jharkhand and Bihar.

(c): 'Police' and 'public order' being State subjects, action with respect to maintenance of law and order lies primarily in the domain of the concerned State Governments, who deal with the various issues related to naxalites activities in the States. The Central Government closely monitors the situation and supplements their efforts over a wide range of schemes, both on security and development fronts.