

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1293

ANSWERED ON:13.08.2013

AIR FACILITY IN LWE AFFECTED STATES

Ahir Shri Hansraj Gangaram; Biswal Shri Hemanand ; Hussain Shri Syed Shahnawaz; Thamaraiselvan Shri R.; Venugopal Shri P.

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has any proposal to increase the role of air services/air force to support the security forces deployed in the Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected States;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the existing services available to the security forces;
- (c) whether there is any proposal to involve retired army officers in anti-naxal operations and to import the latest equipments for identification and tackling rampant IED attacks on security forces and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether some Left Wing Extremism affected States have demanded additional financial assistance under the security related expenditure and to include more districts under the said scheme; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the response of the Government thereto, State-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI R.P.N.SINGH)

(a) & (b): At present, a total number of 11 helicopters of the Indian Air Force and the Border Security Force have been deployed to support the Security Forces in Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected States. These helicopters are available for use as per operational requirements in all LWE affected States. In addition, the LWE affected States have been permitted to hire helicopters under the Security Related Expenditure (SRE) Scheme, on need basis. At present, there is no proposal to increase the existing services available to the security forces deployed in LWE affected States.

(c): There is no such proposal. However, the services of retired Army personnel are being used to enhance counter-IED skills of the Security Forces and also in bomb-disposal squads.

(d) to (e): In 2012, the Central Government has included 23 additional districts under the Security Related Expenditure (SRE) Scheme for LWE affected States. Now, the total coverage of SRE Scheme extends to 106 districts in 9 LWE affected States. At present, there is no proposal to include more districts under the SRE Scheme.