

Title : Statement regarding naxalite attacks in Jehanabad, Bihar on 13.11.2005.

(vi) Naxalite attack that took place in Jehanabad, Bihar on 13.11.2005.

* THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): On behalf of Shri Shivraj V. Patil, I beg to lay on the Table a statement regarding the naxalite attacks that took place in Jehanabad, Bihar on 13th November, 2005.

* Laid on the Table and also placed in Library. See No. LT 2871/2005

Sir, I rise to make a statement in connection with the naxal attacks in Jehanabad on 13.11.2005.

2. As informed by the State Government, 300 to 400 naxalites on the 13th of this month at about 2100 hrs simultaneously attacked the CRPF camp at SS College, Town Police Station, Police Lines and Sub Jail, Jehanabad. While the attacks by the naxalites on the SS College, town police station and the police lines were repulsed, the naxalites were able to break the sub-jail, Jehanabad. In the process, 389 prisoners escaped from the jail including some naxalites including a top naxalite leader and Ranvir Sena activists. The naxalites also looted 8 Home Guard rifles and some ammunition from the jail.

3. Altogether, two jail personnel, two Ranvir Sena activists and two naxalites and one civilian were killed or have died in these attacks.

4. The State Government has informed that there were intelligence inputs about the movement of naxalites in certain areas of Jehanabad which indicated apprehension of naxal attacks on the Nadaul railway station, Kako police station and police patrols.

5. The State Government has suspended the SP, Jehanabad after prima facie ascertaining his lapses in handling

the situation. The State Government has constituted a two member Committee comprising Shri V. Jaishankar Commissioner & Secretary, Water Resources Department and Shri A.C. Verma, IG (Railways) to inquire into all aspects of these attacks including the role of the Government officials in countering these attacks. The report of the Committee is expected by the end of the month.

6. The State Government has launched 'Special Operations' under the supervision of an IG level officer. One DIG, 2 SSP and 6 Dy. SP rank officers have been deployed to lead the security forces for extensive raids with a view to apprehending the naxalites and re-arresting the escaped prisoners. Adequate security and police personnel have been made available for undertaking these special operations. All districts and police stations have been alerted to make all out efforts to intercept and engage the retreating naxal extremists and prevent any backlash following the Jehanabad incident 222 escaped prisoners have returned so far. 20 naxalites have been arrested from Jehanabad and other districts where operations are being carried out.

7. The Central Government is in touch with the State Government and is constantly monitoring the situation. 4 Coys of CRPF and 2 Coys of RAF were deployed in Jehanabad immediately after the attacks. In addition, 5 Coys of BSF have been kept ready for any emergent requirements. 2 teams of NSG have been stationed at Patna and Gaya for need based operations. Besides, 2 MI-17 helicopters have been placed at the disposal of the Government of Bihar.

8. Special Secretary (Internal Security) in the Ministry along with IG (Ops), CRPF and IG (Admn.), NSG were deputed to Patna for one week to guide and assist the State Government officers in counter operations against the naxal militants.

9. In the wake of the Jehanabad incident, the Central Government has also advised all the naxal affected states to review and strengthen the security arrangements for safeguarding the armouries and jails so as to rule out recurrence of Jehanabad type incidents.

10. Till the end of October this year, while the level of naxal violence remains almost at the same level, a few major incidents of naxal violence have taken place in the State of Bihar, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh and Andhra Pradesh.

11. The Central Government has been providing to the naxal affected States need based deployment of Central Para Military Forces, Mine protected Vehicles and Air support wherever required for effective anti-naxalite operations. Besides, India Reserve battalions have also been sanctioned to these states. The Government have recently approved additional India Reserve battalions for the naxal affected states with a higher funding from the Central Government.

12. The Government has set up mechanisms to bring about greater coordination among the naxal affected states. The Union Home Secretary convenes the meetings of the Coordination Centre regularly once in every three months to review and coordinate the measures being taken by the State to counter the problem. Similarly, Special Secretary (Internal Security), MHA, holds monthly meetings of the Task Force on Naxalism to streamline anti-naxalite operations being undertaken by the States including joint operations between them.

13. Besides, the first meeting of the Standing Committee of the Chief Ministers of the naxal affected states was held on 19th September, 2005. At this meeting, it was agreed that (i) the states will adopt a collective approach and pursue a coordinated response to effectively combat the menace of naxalism; (ii) suitable mechanisms for joint operations will be finalized quickly; (iii) the states will strengthen and upgrade the state police forces and also intelligence work; and (iv) the states will set up special and stable administrative structures at the state and district levels for better governance and faster socio-economic development of the naxal affected areas and also ensure full and proper utilization of funds given to them under the various schemes of the Central Government.

14. The Government is alive to the menace of naxalism and will deal sternly with the naxalites indulging in senseless acts of violence. The Government remains committed to combating this problem through a multi-pronged approach on political, security and development fronts. The Government is also willing to further supplement the efforts of the State Governments in undertaking more focused, sustained and intensified anti-naxalite operations against the naxalites and their infrastructure.
