

Title : Regarding need to send more battalions of CRPF to Orissa with a view to curb naxalite activities in Sambalpur and Deograh districts of the State.

(xiii) Need to send more battalions of CRPF to Orrisa with a view to

curb naxalite activities in Sambalpur and Deograh districts of the State

SHRI ARJUN SETHI : Sir, there has been an increase in Maoist violence in the districts of Sambalpur and Deogarh, which are as of now not covered under the nine naxalite affected districts in the State of Orissa. Eight civilians and one police personnel have been killed in three separate incidents in Sambalpur district during this year. It is estimated that more than 60 armed cadres with sophisticated weapons are operating in the two districts under two to three groups. While the State Government have deployed State Armed Forces, the State's security forces have also diverted one company of CRPF to Sambalpur. It has become necessary to augment CPRF presence in the State to combat the growing naxalite activities in the area and also protect sensitive border area between Orissa and Jharkhand. The State Government has, therefore, requested for three additional companies of CRPF. At present, three battalions of CRPF are deployed in the State. But more CRPF forces may kindly be sent to Orissa to control the growing naxalite menace in the State and to protect the poor *adivasis* and civilians.