

INTERNAL SECURITY

CHAPTER

II

Overview

2.1 The internal security scenario in the country can be broadly seen in terms of various specific theatres which have been witnessing a mixed hue of separatist, ethnic and other forms of violence, subversive/terrorist/extremist activity in Jammu & Kashmir and some insurgency affected North Eastern States, particularly Assam, Manipur and Nagaland; naxalite violence in some areas of certain States, particularly Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Chhatisgarh, Jharkhand and Orissa; periodic incidents of terrorist attacks and bomb blasts etc., in various parts of the hinterland; communal tensions and violence; and, sporadic incidents and episodes which may affect public order through large scale agitations, street violence etc. While the overall situation in the country, seen in the light of the above remained largely under control during 2008 and 2009 (upto March 31, 2009), occurrence of a number of major terrorist incidents and bomb blasts, etc. in different parts of the country, including the terrorist attack in Mumbai in November, 2008, however, raised serious concerns about the internal security scenario. On the communal front also, while the situation, in macro terms, has remained, by and large, under control, there were disturbing incidents in some parts of the country, particularly in Orissa

where there was large scale violence targeted against the Christian community, which also led to communal tension and confrontation in certain other States of the country. There were some instances of major and prolonged agitations during the year, which led to disturbance of public order and disruption of normal life in the affected areas such as the agitation by the Gurjars in Rajasthan in pursuance of their demands for being given Scheduled Tribe status, the agitation in Jammu & Kashmir in the wake of the controversy relating to the transfer of land to the Sri Amaranth Yatra Shrine Board, and in West Bengal in the context of the demand for a separate Gorkhland State.

2.2 Based on close and continuous reviews of the security situation in various parts of the country,



Chief Ministers' Conference on Internal Security held on January 6, 2009

specific strategies have been evolved and action taken to deal with militancy/insurgency/extremism in different theatres such as Jammu & Kashmir, States in the North Eastern region and areas affected by naxalite violence. In addition, several measures have been taken, on a continuing basis, to strengthen the internal security apparatus in the country in terms of preparedness and response capabilities. A meeting of the Chief Ministers on Internal Security, chaired by the Prime Minister, was also held on January 6, 2009, in which the internal security situation, in particular, threats from terrorists, was deliberated in detail, and areas and measures requiring priority attention were identified.

2.3 The situation in different areas of the country mentioned above, and the various measures that are being taken by the Government to counter the challenges to internal security from terrorists, are briefly brought out in the subsequent paragraphs.

JAMMU AND KASHMIR

Security Situation

2.4.1 The State of Jammu & Kashmir has been subjected to severe terrorist and secessionist violence, sponsored and supported from across the border, for the past two decades. More than 13,500 civilians and 4,500 Security Force(SF) personnel have lost their lives. However, on account of several measures taken by the Government, and the people's yearning for peace, there has been a marked improvement in the situation in recent years. The trends of violence in the State during the last five years is reflected in the following table:

Trends of Violence in Jammu and Kashmir

Year	Incidents	SFs killed	Civilians killed	Terrorists killed
2004	2565	281	707	976
2005	1990	189	557	917
2006	1667	151	389	591
2007	1092	110	158	472
2008	708	75	91	339
2009*	95	15	7	47

*(till March)

2.4.2 As would be seen, the number of incidents and casualties has progressively come down and the overall security situation in the State has shown perceptible improvement in the recent years. At the same time, however, there are reports to indicate that the infrastructure for training of terrorists across-the-border continues to remain intact and, efforts to infiltrate militants into the State continue to be made. The available information reveals that while the level of infiltration has considerably reduced since 2004, it is still continuing to take place. During 2008, a total of 342 persons are estimated to have infiltrated into the State.

2.4.3 While the Army and the Central Security Forces remain deployed in the State to assist the State Police in counter militancy/terrorism operations, the role and involvement of the State Police in such operations has progressively increased with commendable results.

2.4.4 In addition, the Central Government has been reimbursing expenditure being incurred by the State Government on a variety of security related measures. This includes expenditure on carriage of constabulary, material supplies, rent of accommodation, additional battalions, honorarium to SPOs, civic action programme, air-lift charges, raising cost of India Reserve Battalions, transport, board-lodge, alternate accommodation for SFs, etc. During the financial year 2008-09, an amount of Rs.399.99 crore has been reimbursed to the State Government under SRE Scheme (Police).

2.4.5 A system of Unified Headquarters, chaired by the Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir, with senior representatives of the State Government, Army, Central Para-military Forces and other security agencies has continued to function in the State with the aim of ensuring proper coordination among all agencies, and to regularly monitor and review the operations and the overall security situation. The Ministry of Home Affairs is also closely and continuously monitoring the security situation in the State in tandem with the State Government and the Ministries of Defence and External Affairs, etc.

2.4.6 The Government is firmly committed and determined to counter the challenge posed by the terrorists and violence sponsored from across the border, and to restore enduring peace and normalcy in the State. Towards this end, a multi-faceted strategy is being followed which, apart from the various measures taken on the security front, inter alia, includes (i) focused attention on the developmental aspects with a view to strengthening the infrastructure, creating employment and income generation opportunities, and generally improving the quality of life of the people living in different regions of the States; and (ii) initiation of a series of Confidence Building Measures (CBMs) in the form of a composite dialogue process for improvement of relations between India and Pakistan, on the one hand, and in the context of different regions and segments of the population in Jammu and Kashmir, including promotion of cross-LoC, people to people contacts, on the other.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Central Assistance to Jammu & Kashmir

2.4.7 The Central Government has been continuously supporting and assisting the State Government in their efforts to bring about all-round economic development, and to provide avenues for gainful employment to the people, with focus on planned and balanced regional development. Priority has been given to building physical, economic and social infrastructure, thereby improving the productive potential of the State besides improving the quality of life of the people.

Prime Minister's Reconstruction Plan for J&K

2.4.8 As a special initiative in this direction, the Prime Minister during his visit to J&K on November 17-18, 2004, had announced a Reconstruction Plan for J&K involving an outlay of approximately Rs.24,000 crore, which broadly includes Projects/Schemes aimed at expanding economic infrastructure and provision of basic services, imparting a thrust to employment and income generation activities, and

providing relief and rehabilitation for different groups affected by militancy in J&K. The current estimated cost of all the schemes included in the Prime Minister's Reconstruction Plan is Rs.36,820.77 crore.

2.4.9 The Projects/Schemes envisaged in the Reconstruction Plan – 2004 are implemented by the respective Administrative Ministries in consultation with the State Government. The progress of implementation of the Plan, which includes 67 Projects/Schemes covering 11 sectors of economy, is being monitored by the Ministry of Home Affairs and Planning Commission regularly. Out of these, action in respect of 22 Projects/Schemes has been completed. Out of the remaining 45 projects/schemes, 42 projects are at various stages of implementation and 3 are in the preparatory stages. The Baglihar Hydro-electric Project (450 MW), which has been commissioned and was inaugurated by the Prime Minister on October 10, 2008 was partly funded under the Reconstruction Plan.

2.4.10 In addition to the above, a number of other important initiatives have been taken on the development and related fronts, which, inter alia, include the commencement of train services between Anantnag and Baramulla, starting Haj movement directly from Srinagar, modernization and declaration of the Srinagar Airport as an international airport, etc.

Confidence Building Measures (CBMs)

2.4.11 As regards CBMs, in the context of different segments of the population of the State, a process of internal dialogue and consultation had been initiated in 2006 in the form of a Round-Table Conference (RTC) on Jammu and Kashmir, comprising representatives of various shades of opinion and regions in the State, to identify measures required to further strengthen and consolidate the process of peace and normalcy in the State. Based on the deliberations in the RTC, and the Working Groups set up under its aegis, a comprehensive package was announced by the Prime Minister in Jammu and Kashmir on April 6, 2008. The details of this are briefly indicated in the following paragraphs.

Return of Kashmiri migrants to the Valley

2.4.12 Around 55,000 families had to leave their homes in the Kashmir Valley in the wake of the outbreak of large-scale militant and terrorist violence in the State, and are presently living in Jammu (34,878 families), Delhi (19,338 families) and other States/UTs (1,240 families). The policy of the Government has been to create conditions which would facilitate the return of the Kashmiri migrants to their homes in the Valley, rather than permanent rehabilitation outside the Valley/State. Accordingly, the Government of Jammu & Kashmir has, by way of relief assistance, been providing dry ration and cash relief of Rs.1,000 per head, subject to a maximum of Rs.4,000 per family per month to 15,045 eligible families staying in the Jammu region; the Government of NCT of Delhi is also providing cash relief as above per family for 3,624 needy families; while other State Governments/UT Administrations have been providing relief at different scales fixed by them to the Kashmiri migrant families staying in their States/UTs. In addition, with a view to improving the living conditions for families living in camps in Jammu region, the Prime Minister, during his visit to J&K in November, 2004, had announced the construction of 5,242 two-roomed tenements at an estimated cost of Rs.345 crore for Kashmiri Migrants presently staying in one-room tenements. Construction of 1,024 flats at Purkhoo, Muthi and Nagrota in Jammu has been completed and allotted. Construction of the remaining 4218 flats has been taken up at Jagati near Nagrota, which is being developed as a township with all infrastructural facilities. As per the revised plan, 2,640 flats shall be completed by October 2009 and remaining shall be completed by April 2010.

2.4.13 In addition to the above measures, the comprehensive package announced by the Prime Minister in April, 2008 included a Package involving an amount of Rs.1,618.40 crore aimed at facilitating the return and rehabilitation of Kashmiri migrants who had to leave their homes and were staying outside the Kashmir Valley. The Package includes assistance for housing, transit accommodation, students' scholarships, employment, rehabilitation and restoration of agriculture holdings and orchards, waiver of interest

on loans taken before migration, and continuation of cash relief during the period of return and rehabilitation. Details of the Package are included in **Annexure-II**

2.4.14 The Central and State Governments had earlier been implementing various measures by way of payment of ex-gratia relief to the victims of militancy related violence in the State, the expenditure on which was being reimbursed under the Security Related Expenditure (SRE) Scheme of the Central Government, and since the inception of the scheme an amount of Rs.469.308 crore had been reimbursed to the State Government upto March, 2009. In addition, the State Government had also been implementing a Scheme with provision of compassionate appointment of the next of kin of the civilians killed in militancy related violence but, in practice, for various reasons, a large number of affected families were unable to get this benefit.

2.4.15 With a view to providing relief in a more comprehensive manner to the victims of militancy related violence, the Package announced by the Prime Minister in April, 2008 includes the following provisions:-

- A one time cash compensation of Rs.5 lakhs to the families of the victims in lieu of employment – an amount of Rs.70 crore has been released as an advance to the State Government for this purpose;
- Enhancement of pension to widows from Rs.500 to Rs.750 per month – an amount of Rs.1.47 crore has been released for this purpose;
- Financial assistance for the education of those orphaned in militancy related violence @ Rs.750 per month per child upto 18 years (extendable upto the age of 21 years in exceptional cases) to all orphans without discrimination – an amount of Rs.19 crore has been released for this purpose by way of

contribution to the Corpus Fund of the Jammu & Kashmir State Rehabilitation Council as a one-time assistance.

Package for 1947 West Pakistan refugees

2.4.16 A package for 1947 West Pakistan refugees, comprising measures aimed at facilitating admission of their wards in professional and other educational institutions, bank loans without mortgage for taking up self-employment/business activities, vocational training for youth under the skill development initiative of the Ministry of Labour & Employment, special facilities in terms of admission to the technical institutions approved by the AICTE in various parts of the country, etc. The facilities in respect of the latter include extension of date of admission by 30 days, relaxation in cut-off percentage upto 10% subject to minimum eligibility requirement, waiving of domicile requirements, permission to implement upto a maximum of 1% supernumerary increase in intake so as to admit eligible candidates from this category, and facilitation of migration in second and subsequent years.

Package for 1947 refugees from POK

2.4.17 In the wake of the Pakistani aggression in Jammu and Kashmir in 1947, about 32,000 families migrated from Pak Occupied Kashmir (PoK) to the State of Jammu and Kashmir. In order to mitigate the hardships of these families, Government of India sanctioned packages in 1947-48, 1960 and also in year 2000. In order to further address various grievances of these refugees, the Government of India has approved a package involving an outlay of Rs.49 crore. Funds for this purpose have been released to the State Government.

Cross LOC CBMs

2.4.18 As regards CBMs on the external front, a Comprehensive Dialogue Process had been initiated with Pakistan following the Joint Press Statement made by the then Prime Minister of India and the then President of Pakistan on January 6, 2004. An informal

cease fire has also been maintained along the Line of Control (LoC) and the international border since November 25, 2003. In the process of the dialogue, a number of Confidence Building Measures aimed at promoting people to people contacts between both countries had been initiated, including bus services between Srinagar-Muzaffarabad and Poonch-Rawalakote in Jammu and Kashmir and several other train and bus services in other States such as the Amritsar-Lahore bus service, Amritsar-Nankana Sahib bus service, the Samjhauta Express, the Thar Express, and the Munabao-Khokhrapar rail link. With a view to build further on these CBMs, and as a part of the RTC initiative mentioned earlier, further measures have been taken by way of simplification and further facilitation of cross LoC/travel on the Srinagar-Muzaffarabad and Poonch-Rawalakote routes, and the commencement of duty free trade across the LoC in respect of identified commodities on October 21, 2008 after an agreement between India and Pakistan. All these CBMs have generally had a positive impact in terms of improvement in the overall situation in the State.

2.4.19 Unfortunately, the composite dialogue process suffered a serious set back in the wake of the terrorist attacks in Mumbai on November 26, 2008. The Government of India has urged the Government of Pakistan to take effective steps to bring those involved in the planning and execution of this attack to justice and to dismantle terrorist infrastructure in Pakistan/PoK. It is hoped that the Pakistan Government will respond in a manner that could help to revive the dialogue process.

Controversy over Land Transfer to Shri Amarnath Yatra Shrine Board

2.4.20 In the wake of the various measures taken by the Government, there has been a significant improvement in the overall situation in the State, and there was a general expectation, cutting across all segments of the people in the State, that the elections to the State Legislative Assembly scheduled for November, 2008 would see an overwhelming

response from the people. Unfortunately, in June, 2008, a major controversy arose around the issue of transfer of forest land to Shri Amarnathji Shrine Board (SASB) for the purpose of making arrangements for the Amarnath Yatra. Certain decisions taken by the Government in this regard led to major controversies which, in turn, were sought to be exploited by the separatist elements through large scale propaganda. All this snowballed into a two month long agitation both in the Kashmir Valley and the Jammu regions, and also created serious polarization between the two regions of the State. A series of measures were taken by the State Government and the Central Government to defuse the situation and the same was brought under control, though it did leave scars among people in both the regions.

Elections to State Assembly

2.4.21 Various developments during the above mentioned controversy also led to the withdrawal of support by the PDP, a partner in the then ruling coalition Government, and the consequent fall of the Government and imposition of Governor's Rule in the State on July 10, 2008. These developments led to a virtual political vacuum in the State, and also provided a further opportunity to the separatist groups, who had become considerably marginalized, to reassert themselves and occupy the space yielded by the political parties, mainly through a series of protests and agitations, and calls for boycott of elections, etc. However, it was decided to conduct the elections so as to have an elected Government in place in the State before the date of expiry of the Governor's Rule on January 9, 2009. The elections, in turn, saw an unprecedented voter turnout with minimal violence, and a new coalition Government of the National Conference and the Congress, with support of some smaller parties and independents, was sworn in under the Chief Ministership of Shri Omar Abdullah (NC) on January 5, 2009.

2.4.22 The peaceful conduct of the Assembly elections, and the high level of voter turnout, which surpassed the earlier elections, despite efforts by the

separatist groups to disrupt the elections, evidently created serious concern among the separatist elements and the terrorist groups sponsored from across the border. Inter alia, this manifested itself in the form of visibly stepped-up efforts at infiltration into the State, particularly, in March, 2009, much before the snow starts melting, on the one hand, and efforts by the separatist groups to arouse public sentiments, from time to time, and provoke agitations, etc., on the other, in a bid to vitiate the atmosphere in the run up to the Parliamentary elections. However, due to sustained efforts of the State Government and the Security Forces/agencies, the Parliamentary elections also passed off peacefully, with a satisfactory voter turnout when compared with the previous elections.

NORTH EAST

2.5.1 The North Eastern region, comprising of eight States, viz. Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim and Tripura, presents an intricate cultural and ethnic mosaic with over 200 ethnic groups with distinct languages, dialects, and socio-cultural identity. Coupled with factors related to geographical location and connectivity this, in turn, poses a variety of challenges on the development and security fronts. The region also has extensive borders with Bangladesh, Bhutan, China and Myanmar, and this has its own security implications. The regional aspirations of the different groups in various States of the area, have added a further dimension to the complexity of the situation.

Security Situation

2.5.2 Over the years a number of States in the region have been witnessing various forms of insurgency, together with ethnic and communal violence/tensions in some cases. The State-wise profile of violence during the last five years is indicated at **Annexure-III**. A list of the major underground/insurgent groups who have come up/are active in the region is at **Annexure-IV**.

2.5.3 During the year 2008, Sikkim reported no violence. The situation in Mizoram also remained

largely peaceful. There was low intensity violence in some parts of Meghalaya and Arunachal Pradesh, but the situation in these States also largely remained peaceful. There has also been significant improvement over the years in the security situation in Tripura. During the year elections to the State Assemblies in Meghalaya, Nagaland and Tripura have been conducted peacefully. The situation in Assam, Manipur and Nagaland has, however, continued to be a cause for concern.

Assam

2.5.4 In 2008 and 2009 (upto March 31, 2009) there were 476 incidents of violence in the State resulting in killing of 22 Security Forces (SFs) personnel and 283 civilians. This was considerably lower as compared to the previous year. Intensified Counter Insurgency (CI) Operations also resulted in large number of arrests, surrenders and killings of militants. However, in overall terms the situation, continues to be a matter of concern.

2.5.5 Some parts of the State witnessed communal tensions during the year. In communal clashes in Udalguri and Darrang districts from October 3-5, 2008, 57 persons were killed and 117 persons were injured. A large number of persons also fled their homes and were accommodated in temporary relief camps set up by the State Government. As a result of intensive efforts, including deployment of additional Central Para Military Forces, the situation has normalized and those who had left their homes have also returned.

2.5.6 There were several incidents of IED explosions and blasts in the State during the year. 9 serial blasts took place at different locations in the districts of Assam on October 30, 2008, resulting in the death of 76 persons and injuries to 351. In another incident on January 1, 2009, there were 3 blasts in Guwahati in which 7 persons were killed and around 69 persons were injured. Although inputs about further such attacks have continued to be received, as a result of increased vigilance, with particular attention to

sharing of intelligence, any further significant incidents of this nature have been averted.

2.5.7 The North-Cachar (NC) Hills district area of the State has also continued to witness violence by way of incidents of abduction, killing, extortion, etc., perpetrated mainly by the DHD (Joel Garlosa) group. The group has also periodically targeted the two major infrastructure projects under implementation in the State, viz., the Lumding-Silchar gauge conversion Railway project and the East-West Highway project in the NC Hills area.

2.5.8 The main groups responsible for violence in the State during the year are the ULFA, DHD(J) in the NC Hills area and the National Democratic Front of Bodoland (NDFB) in some parts of lower Assam.

2.5.9 The leadership of ULFA continues to remain in Bangladesh. Some initiatives were taken in 2005-06 to commence talks with ULFA, through a Peoples' Consultation Group (PCG) which was set up by ULFA for this purpose, and the Government also declared unilateral suspension of operations in August 2006. But the failure of the leadership of ULFA to come forward directly for talks, and reports that they used this period to regroup and consolidate, led to the resumption of counter-insurgency operations against the outfit. In the wake of this, two Coys of the so-called 28 Bn. of ULFA, mainly active in Upper Assam, declared unilateral ceasefire on June 24, 2008. This has resulted in decline in violence in the areas of Upper Assam, although the other units of ULFA have continued to indulge in sporadic acts of violence.

2.5.10 The NDFB, with whom the Government has a Suspension of Operations (SoO) agreement since 1st July, 2005, witnessed a split during the year. The SoO was extended in January 2009 with more stringent conditions, and sustained operations are being carried out against the anti-Talks group, the leadership of which continues to remain in Bangladesh.

2.5.11 The DHD(J) is the break-away/anti-Talks faction of the Dima Halam Daogah (DHD) with whom the Government has a SoO Agreement since

01.01.2003. In the wake of stepped up violence by the DHD(J), CI Operations against the group have been intensified, and recently, the leader of the group has also been apprehended and a number of other senior cadres have been killed in security force action. Following reports of involvement of the Chief Executive Member of the Autonomous Hill Council of the NC Hills, and some other elements in the Council, in colluding with, and diverting funds to, the DHD(J), the CEM and several others have been arrested and the Council has been suspended. The related criminal cases have been taken over for investigation by the National Investigation Agency (NIA).

2.5.12 The Government also continues to have a Tripartite SoO Agreement with the United Peoples' Democratic Solidarity (UPDS) which was active mainly in the Karbi Anglong District. The emphasis in all the SoO Agreements is to see that the Groups can come into the mainstream through a process of dialogue, shunning arms and violence and mutually acceptable resolution of their grievances within the framework of the Constitution. The implementation of the SoO Agreements is being closely reviewed and monitored with a view to seeing that the objectives can be realized in a meaningful manner in a reasonable time frame.

Manipur

2.5.13 As would be seen from the Statement at **Annexure-III**, there was a spurt in the number of incidents in 2008, but this was mainly due to the stepped up operations of the security forces after a series of high level reviews of the situation in the State, which also led to significant increase in the number of insurgents apprehended/killed/surrendered. These largely involved the cadres of Meitei underground groups, who continued to be mainly responsible for the violence. A faction of one of the Meitei groups has also come forward for a ceasefire and dialogue.

2.5.14 In August 2008, Suspension of Operations (SoO) Agreements were signed with two groups of Kuki outfits.

2.5.15 The situation in the State was closely and

continuously monitored and in overall terms, it can be said that there has been considerable improvement in the situation. Focussed attention is now also being given on stepping up development activity, particularly the implementation of major infrastructure projects, and strengthening of the governance structures in the State.

Nagaland

2.5.16 The violence in Nagaland, has been mainly in the form of inter-factional clashes between different groups. In turn, this witnessed an increase during the year on account of splits and re-alignments among the main groups, viz., the NSCN(IM) and NSCN(K), and resultant developments. All this also led to calls from various sections of the Naga Society, asking the groups to shun violence and killings and come together for reconciliation and peace.

2.5.17 With a view to ensuring better coordination between the security forces and the State Government and Police, a State-level Strategy Group was set up under the chairmanship of the Chief Secretary, along with District level Coordination Groups under the Chairmanship of the Deputy Commissioners. These have had a salutary effect, and have, inter alia, led to strengthening of the Cease-Fire monitoring mechanism at the field level.

2.5.18 The Government of India (GOI) had entered into a formal Cease Fire Agreement with the Isak Muivah group of the National Socialist Council of Nagaland (NSCN-IM) w.e.f. August 1, 1997. A Group of Ministers (GoM) has also been constituted to hold talks with NSCN (IM). The GoM is assisted by Shri K. Padmanabiah, Government of India's representative for the Naga Peace Talks. There is a separate Cease Fire Monitoring Group (CFMG) with reference to the Cease Fire Agreement. The main emphasis of the CFMG is, inter alia, to ensure that the cadres of the Group stay in designated camps and thereby ensure against any illegal activities. The Cease

Fire between the Government of India and the NSCN(IM) has been extended indefinitely, with effect from August 1, 2007 subject to progress in the talks. The Talks are continuing, and can be said to have entered a substantive phase after having been focussed, initially, on matters pertaining to the Cease-Fire.

2.5.19 The Government of India have also entered into formal Cease Fire Agreement with NSCN (Khaplang) since April 28, 2001. This has been extended from time to time and is presently valid till April 27, 2010.

Meghalaya

2.5.20 A Suspension of Operations (SoO) Agreement has also been entered into with the Achik National Volunteer Council (ANVC), active in the Garo Hills in Meghalaya and tripartite discussions are continuing.

Steps taken by Government to deal with the situation in the North Eastern Region

2.5.21 The whole of Assam, Manipur (except Imphal Municipal area) and Nagaland, Tirap and Changlang districts of Arunachal Pradesh, and 20 km. belt in the States of Arunachal Pradesh and Meghalaya having a common border with Assam, have been declared as 'Disturbed Areas' under the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act, 1958 as amended in 1972. The Governor of Tripura has declared the areas under 28 Police Stations in full, or part, in six (6) Police Station areas as 'Disturbed Areas'.

2.5.22 The Central Government has been assisting the States in the region in a variety of ways to deal with the situation created by the various insurgent groups. These include, deployment of Central Security Forces to aid the State authorities in carrying out counter insurgency operations and providing security for vulnerable institutions and installations; sharing of intelligence on a continuous basis; provision of financial assistance for strengthening of the local Police Forces and intelligence agencies under the Police

Modernization Scheme; assistance for strengthening various aspects of the security apparatus and counter-insurgency operations, by way of reimbursement of Security Related Expenditure, provision for assistance to the States for raising of additional forces in the form of India Reserve Battalions, etc.

Deployment of Central Para-Military Forces (CPFs)

2.5.23 Units of the Central Para-Military Forces (CPFs) and Army have been deployed in aid to civilian authorities in the insurgency/militancy affected States. While deployment charges for CPFs units in Assam are presently levied @ 10% of the normal charges, the other States in the North East are totally exempt from such charges in view of their resource position. Additional forces have also been provided to the State Governments for supplementing the security cover for various installations and infrastructure projects.

Modernisation of State Police Force (MPF)

2.5.24 As mentioned earlier, the Ministry of Home Affairs is also assisting the State Governments in Modernisation of State Police Forces. Under this scheme assistance is being provided, inter-alia, for procurement of modern equipments for surveillance, communications, forensic science laboratories, etc., weaponry, vehicles, computerization, training infrastructure and for construction of police infrastructure viz., housing/police stations/out posts/barracks etc. Under the scheme for MPF, all the North Eastern States are eligible to receive 100% central assistance of their approved annual plan for modernization of Police force. In 2008-09, central assistance of Rs. 211.69 crore was released to the NE States under the Scheme.

Raising of India Reserve (IR) Battalions

2.5.25 The Government of India is assisting the State Governments for augmenting and upgrading their police forces to deal with insurgency/militancy. Towards this end, 40 India Reserve Battalions (IR Bns.) have been sanctioned for the NE States, including Sikkim. These

include 8 for Assam, 9 for Tripura, 8 for Manipur, 7 for Nagaland, 5 each for Arunachal Pradesh and Mizoram, 3 for Meghalaya and 3 for Sikkim.

Reimbursement of Security Related Expenditure (SRE)

2.5.26 The Central Government is implementing a scheme for reimbursement of Security Related Expenditure (SRE) for the States seriously affected by militancy/insurgency. The scheme is being implemented in all States of the region except Mizoram and Sikkim. Under the scheme, the expenditure incurred on various items, including raising of India Reserve Battalions, logistics provided to the CPFs/ Army deployed in the State, ex-gratia grant and gratuitous relief to the victims of extremist violence, 75% of the expenditure incurred on POL (petrol, oil and lubricants) in operations and honorarium paid to village guards/village defence committees/home guards deployed for security purposes, and expenditure on maintenance of designated camps set up for groups with whom the Central Government/State Governments have entered into agreement for Suspension of Operations, is being reimbursed.

2.5.27 State wise details of assistance released to NE States under the SRE scheme during the last eight years are as under:

State	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	Total (including amount released from 2001-onwards)
Assam	63.97	92.86	68.01	50.80	75.40	63.91	90.86	75.61	108.60	690.02
Nagaland	7.50	12.71	22.42	19.17	26.49	24.83	25.55	21.97	33.13	193.77
Manipur	14.18	7.75	7.64	4.00	9.44	33.65	13.60	14.45	21.58	126.29
Tripura	15.00	27.70	29.85	34.33	36.17	27.00	18.24	16.47	45.04	249.80
Arunachal Pradesh	1.00	1.90	0.95	2.47	1.35	1.35	1.28	3.02	6.24	18.77
Meghalaya	3.21	0.60	8.35	1.92	1.56	13.17	3.91	5.88	5.45	44.84
Total	104.86	143.52	137.22	112.69	150.41	163.91	153.44	137.40	220.04	1323.49

2.5.28 The Central Government has also formulated a 100% centrally funded Surrender and Rehabilitation Scheme, the expenditure on which is also reimbursed under the SRE scheme. The main features of the scheme are as follows:

- Grant of Rs.1.50 lakh to be kept in the name of the surrenderee as fixed deposit for a period of 3 years. The money can be withdrawn by the surrenderee after 3 years subject to good behaviour.
- Stipend at the rate of Rs.2,000 per month for a period upto 36 months.
- Vocational Training at Government expense; and
- Incentives for the weapons surrendered.

2.5.29 The number of militants who have surrendered during the past five years are as below:

Year	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Number of militants	555	1430	524	1112	398*

*upto March 31, 2009

(Rs. in crore)

Implementation of Accords/Agreements

2.5.30 The Ministry has also been reviewing and monitoring the implementation of tripartite accords that have been entered into as part of negotiated peace processes in the past.

2.5.31 A Memorandum of Settlement (MoS) was signed between the Central Government, Government of Assam and the Bodo Liberation Tigers (BLT) on February 10, 2003, which resulted in laying down of arms by the militants, and paved the way for social and economic development in the Bodo dominated areas. The Sixth Schedule to the Constitution of India was amended in 2003 for creation of Bodoland Territorial Council for the area Bodoland Territorial Areas District (BTAD). Subsequently, elections to the Council were held in May, 2005. The Bodo language has been included in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution of India. In terms of the commitment to provide financial assistance of Rs. 100 crore per annum for development of socio-economic infrastructure in BTAD area for 5 years, over and above the normal plan assistance to the State of Assam, the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER) has sanctioned 39 projects worth Rs. 419 crore. In addition, Rs.47.92 crore have been released to the Council for development of administrative infrastructure in BTAD. The Prime Minister, during his visit to Assam, has sanctioned an additional Rs.250 crore for integrated development of BTAD. The implementation of the MoS is being reviewed periodically with the representatives of the Government of Assam and the Council.

2.5.32 A tripartite Memorandum of Settlement was signed with the National liberation Front of Tripura (Nayanbasi) in December, 2004. In this context, a special economic package has been sanctioned by the Government for taking up a number of projects for the welfare of the tribal communities. A sum of Rs.8 crore, in addition to Rs.5.5 crore in 2006-07, was released to the State Government of Tripura in the year 2007-08 for taking up the identified projects. During the year Grants-in-Aid of Rs.5 crore was released to Government of Tripura for this purpose.

2.5.33 The Ministry has also been reviewing the progress of implementation of the Memorandum of Settlement, popularly known as the Assam Accord, which was signed between the Government of Assam, the All Assam Students Union and the All Assam Gana Sangram Parishad on August 15, 1985. Certain clauses of the Accord are of continuing nature i.e. safeguards for Assamese people, measures for economic development of Assam, measures for identification of foreigners, prevention of infiltration etc. and are, therefore, being continuously monitored.

Repatriation of Bru Migrants from Tripura to Mizoram

2.5.34 More than 30,000 minority Bru (Reang) tribals, mostly from Western Mizoram have been forced to stay in relief camps in Tripura since October, 1997 after being attacked by Mizo villagers. The Ministry has been pursuing with the Government of Mizoram the matter of early repatriation of Bru refugees from Tripura to Mizoram. In the years 2005 and 2006, 195 cadres of BNLF and 857 cadres of BLFM surrendered to Government of Mizoram. The cadres of BNLF and their family members have since been rehabilitated in Mizoram with grants-in-aid provided to Government of Mizoram by Ministry of Home Affairs. The cadres of BLFM have, however, not yet been fully rehabilitated because their family members are still staying in relief camps in Tripura. In this background, the issue of repatriation of Bru migrants from Tripura to Mizoram and their rehabilitation in Mizoram is being closely pursued with the Government of Mizoram.

NAXAL SITUATION

OVERVIEW

2.6.1 Naxalites operate in the vacuum created by functional inadequacies of field level governance structures, espouse local demands, and take advantage of prevalent dissatisfaction and feelings of perceived

neglect and injustice among the under privileged and remote segments of population. Simultaneously they make systematic efforts to prevent execution and implementation of development works, including infrastructure like railways, roads, power and telecom through violence and terror, to keep the remote and background areas in a state of inaccessibility and deprivation, as also to show the State, and governance structures at field levels, as being ineffective.

2.6.2 Several naxalite groups have been operating in certain parts of the country for several decades now. In a significant development in 2004, the Peoples War Group (PWG) then operating in Andhra Pradesh, and the Maoist Communist Centre (MCC) then operating in Bihar and adjoining areas, merged to form the Communist Party of India (CPI) (Maoist). The CPI (Maoist) continues to remain the most dominant among the various Leftwing Extremist (LWE) groups, accounting for about 88% of total incidents of violence and 89% of resultant killings. The coming together of the major groups under a single banner has been accompanied by growing militarization in their organization and tactics, thus creating a formidable threat and challenge.

2.6.3 In macro terms, the number of incidents has remained broadly at the same level during the past few years. With 1,591 incidents and 721 casualties reported in 2008 compared to 1,565 incidents and 696 casualties in 2007, LWE violence registered an increase of 1.2%, while naxal casualties registered an increase of about 3.4% in 2008 over previous year. The intensity of violence (i.e., number of deaths per incident) also increased marginally from 0.44 to 0.45. Countrywide, LWE violence was reported from 400 Police Stations in 87 districts of 13 States in 2008 as compared to 371 Police Stations in 95 districts of 13 States in 2007. There has been a concentration of violent incidents and casualties mainly in some districts of Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Bihar and Orissa. Together, these four States accounted for 86.39% of the total incidents of naxal violence during 2008. Three violent incidents i.e. attack on the district armoury at Nayagarh on February 15, 2008 looting of 1,090 weapons, killing of 15 policemen and one civilian;

attack at Balimela on June 29, 2008 killing 37 policemen and one civilian; and landmine explosion on SH 25 on July 16, killing 17 policemen in Malkangiri district, accounted for a substantial increase in share of naxalite violence in Orissa. The State-wise profile of naxalite violence is indicated in the Statement at **Annexure- V.**

Government's Approach to deal with Naxal Situation

2.6.4 The Government has been following a holistic approach to deal with naxalite activities, aimed at giving attention in the areas of security, development, administration and public perception management. The view and the policy of the Government is that for dealing effectively with the naxal problem, an entirely police and security oriented approach is not enough. While it is necessary to conduct proactive and sustained operations against the extremists, and put in place all measures required for this, it is also necessary to simultaneously give focused attention to development and governance issues, particularly at the cutting edge level. Towards this end, there is need to develop short term programmes, involving activities such as holding health camps, effective implementation of the Public Distribution System, provision of drinking water facilities and other basic needs, as well as medium and long term measures for overall development of the area as per a time bound action programme. In this context, the large amount of funds available to the States under various Central Schemes like the Backward Districts Initiative, Backward Regions Grant Fund, the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme, the Prime Minister's Gram Sadak Yojna, the National Rural Health Mission Scheme and Sarva Siksha Abhiyan, etc., acquire special significance and can go a long way in alleviating the situation and circumstances which the naxalites attempt to exploit.

2.6.5 After various high-level deliberations and interactions it has also been felt that an integrated approach aimed at the relatively more affected areas would give surer results. With this in view, a detailed analysis of the spread and trends in respect of naxalite violence has been made, and 33 seriously affected

districts in 8 States have been taken up for special attention on planning, implementation and monitoring of development schemes. Within these, 8 most affected districts in 4 States viz. Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand and Orissa have been taken up for implementation of integrated security and development action plans, an approach that can be replicated in other affected districts also. In furtherance of the approach of dealing with the naxalite problem in an integrated manner, a high-level Task Force under Cabinet Secretary has also been formed for promoting coordinated efforts across a range of development and security measures. The Task Force has been meeting frequently to review the situation, and has representation from the Ministries of Home Affairs, Defence, Rural Development, Tribal Affairs, Environment & Forest, Drinking Water Supply, Planning Commission, etc.

Review and monitoring mechanism

2.6.6 A number of review and monitoring mechanisms have been established in the context of the different aspects of the naxalite situation, and the measures needed to deal with it. These include:

- An Empowered Group of Ministers (EGoM), under the chairmanship of the Union Home Minister, to review and monitor all aspects of a coordinated approach to naxalite violence and related issues.
- A Standing Committee of Chief Ministers of concerned States, under the chairmanship of Union Home Minister, to work out a coordinated policy and specific measures to deal with the naxalite problem on political, security and development fronts.
- A Coordination Centre chaired by the Union Home Secretary to

review and coordinate the efforts of the concerned State Governments, where the State Governments are represented by Chief Secretaries and Directors General of Police.

- A Task Force under Special Secretary (Internal Security) in the Ministry of Home Affairs, with senior officers from Intelligence agencies, Central Paramilitary Forces (CPFs) and State Police Forces (SPFs), to deliberate upon the operational steps needed to deal with the naxalite activities and bring about coordination between authorities of different States, as may be necessary.
- An Inter Ministerial Group (IMG), headed by Additional Secretary (Naxal Management), in the Ministry, with officers from development Ministries and Planning Commission, to oversee effective implementation of development schemes in naxalite affected areas for accelerated socio-economic development.

2.6.7 The Union Home Minister held a meeting with the Chief Ministers of 7 naxal-affected States on



Meeting with Chief Ministers of seven naxal-affected States on January

January 7, 2009 in which, inter alia, the need for coordinated and joint operations by the naxal-affected States was emphasized. The Union Home Minister also visited Chattisgarh and Jharkhand for detailed reviews with the State Governments. Frequent meetings were also held at the level of the Home Secretary, Special Secretary (IS), and the Additional Secretary (NM), to review the situation and work out action plans to deal with the situation. Based on these discussions and consultations, action plans are being drawn up so that a sustained drive can be launched against naxalites in close coordination among the affected States.

Measures to tackle the naxal problem

2.6.8 The primary responsibility for tackling the naxalite situation rests with the State Governments, and they have to take coordinated measures for this purpose. In various reviews and discussions mentioned earlier, the State Governments have been advised to take the following measures:-

- Time-bound action for augmenting the police force in the State (with reference to police-population ratio), and for filling up existing vacancies, particularly in the Districts and Police Stations in the Districts / areas affected by naxalite violence.
- Develop suitable incentives for persons who are posted in these areas and a rotation policy for people posted in these areas.
- Action to ensure that the Police Stations and Police Outposts in the areas affected by naxalite activities are provided the necessary infrastructure in terms of secure Police Station buildings (with perimeter security), barracks, armoury, mess arrangements, etc.
- Urgently raise special forces and, in the meanwhile, earmark a reasonable component of the State Police for being provided with special commando/ jungle warfare related training, for which establishment of training facilities within the State and, in the interim, tie ups with the Army, CPFs and other States with such facilities could be made.
- While the importance of strengthening the capabilities of intelligence gathering in the State generally is important, a special thrust should be given in terms of strengthening these arrangements in the naxalite affected areas.
- Adherence to the standard operating procedures for various types of police and security force operations so as to pre-empt possible ambush/attacks and minimize casualties.
- Focused measures should be adopted to ensure that the field and intermediate level functionaries of key departments such as health, education, drinking water, electricity, revenue and other development departments could be available and accessible to the people.
- Identify critical infrastructure and development projects in the affected areas, as also critical infrastructure gaps, particularly in the sphere of connectivity, and formulate action plans to ensure the timely implementation of such projects.
- Create mechanisms for public grievance redressal, mass contact and public awareness, for creating an overall positive environment and

confidence among the people in the local administrative machinery.

- Under a well conceived strategy, a publicity and counter propaganda campaign should be mounted.

2.6.9 While the concerned State Governments are expected to take necessary action to deal with naxalite activities, the Central Government has been supplementing their efforts and resources through various schemes.

Scheme for Modernisation of State Police Forces

2.6.10 Under the scheme for Modernisation of State Police Forces, assistance for modern equipment, weaponry, mobility, communications, training, infrastructure in terms of police buildings and housing, forensic science related facilities and other essential infrastructure is being provided to the States. During the period 2002-03 to 2006-07, total Central assistance given to naxal affected States for modernization of the Police was Rs.2,140.70 crore and in 2007-08, a provision of Rs.538.39 crore was made. In 2008-09, Rs.501.52 crore was allocated to nine naxal affected States. This included Rs. 2 crore each to 32 of the 33 focus districts as 100 % Central grant for strengthening the police infrastructure.

Security Related Expenditure Scheme

2.6.11 Under the scheme, expenditure incurred by the affected States on items like (i) ex-gratia payment for civilians and security personnel killed by the naxals and premium for insurance of police personnel; (ii) transportation, communication and other logistics support for CPMFs deployed for anti-naxalite operations; (iii) ammunition; (iv) training of State police forces; (v) expenditure on elements of community policing, village defence committees, honoraria to Special Police Officers (SPOs), etc.; (vi) rehabilitation

of naxalites who surrender; (vii) need-based hiring of weapons/vehicles and communication equipment; (viii) recurring expenditure for strengthening of police stations/check-posts/outposts; and (ix) publicity material, etc. is reimbursed to them.

2.6.12 As a step towards qualitative improvement in implementation, annual work-plans of the concerned States were got prepared and considered for in-principle approval on the various specific activities planned for the year. Rs.80 crore provided under the Scheme for the year 2008-09 was released to the States.

Deployment of Central Para-military Forces (CPFs)

2.6.13 37 Battalions (Bns.) of CPFs were deployed on anti-naxalite duties for assisting the State police forces. This includes deployment of 4 Bns. each in Andhra Pradesh, Bihar and Orissa, 16 Bns. in Chhattisgarh, 6 Bns. in Jharkhand and 1 Bn. each in Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal.

2.6.14 In addition, it has also been decided to raise 10 Specialised Commando Battalions equipped and trained in guerilla and jungle warfare techniques, and to be located mainly in the naxal affected States/areas. Action for raising two Battalions was commenced during 2008, and these will be located in Koraput (Orissa) and Jagdalpur (Chhattisgarh).

2.6.15 The deployment of Central Forces is essentially intended to supplement the efforts of the State Government. It is, therefore, necessary for the States to have their own forces to deal with various types of internal security related situations. Towards this end, apart from urging the States to augment the State Polices and to establish their own special forces, a scheme for raising India Reserve Battalions (IR Bns.) in the States with Central assistance is also being implemented. Under this scheme, the Central Government has approved 32 IR Bns. for the naxal-affected States. These include: Andhra Pradesh 8; Bihar 3; Chhattisgarh 6; Jharkhand 3; Madhya Pradesh 1; Maharashtra 2; Orissa 5; Uttar Pradesh 2; and West Bengal 2.

2.6.16 Apart from assisting the States in the strengthening and raising their own forces, the Central Government has also assisted the States in the area of specialized training in Army and Para Military Force centres. To further strengthen the training infrastructure, it has also been decided to set up 20 Counter Insurgency and Anti-Terrorism (CIAT) Schools, mainly in the naxal affected States. Action to set up 8 Schools in Bihar, Chattisgarh, Jharkhand, Orissa & Assam has been commenced.

Scheme for infrastructure in naxal affected areas

2.6.17 A new Scheme for Special Infrastructure in LWE affected States has been approved in the Eleventh Plan, with an allocation of Rs.500 crore, to cater to critical infrastructure gaps, which cannot be covered under the normal provisions of various existing schemes. These could relate to requirements of mobility for the police/security forces by upgrading existing roads/tracks in inaccessible areas, provide secure camping grounds and helipads at strategic locations in remote and interior areas, measures to enhance security in respect of Police Stations/Outposts located in vulnerable areas, etc. In the first year of implementation, the coverage was limited to a total of 13 districts, including 8 pilot districts in four worst affected States, together with 5 other districts from 4 other States. An amount of Rs. 99.99 crores was released under the Scheme during 2008-09. The District-wise releases are indicated in **Annexure-VI**.

Development Schemes

2.6.18 As already indicated, special and focussed attention is being given to the planning, implementation and monitoring of development schemes in the naxalite affected areas, with close coordination between the Central development Ministries and the State development Departments, for synergy and optimal results.

2.6.19 With the setting up of the Task Force under the Chairmanship of Cabinet Secretary, as mentioned

in para 2.6.5, a number of steps have been taken to ensure the focussed implementation of various development schemes and programmes in the 33 focus districts referred to earlier. This is now being coordinated and monitored by the Planning Commission. In the case of the PMGSY the criteria for coverage of habitations has been revised to 500 in the normal areas and 250 in the tribal areas, and 3 year perspective plans are being prepared for covering all eligible habitations. In addition, a road requirement/ connectivity plan, over and above the PMGSY, has also been prepared and approved for all the 33 districts and their peripheries. The Central Assistance for the Ashram Schools in the tribal sub-plan areas, and for hostels for tribal boys and girls has been increased from 50 to 100 percent. The Rules under the Scheduled Tribes and other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 have been notified on 01.01.2008.

MEASURES TAKEN TO STRENGTHEN THE INTERNAL SECURITY APPARATUS

2.7.1 As mentioned earlier, apart from the specific threats from, and activities of, various militant/insurgent/ extremist groups in specific areas of the country, terrorism is the foremost issue in the minds of the people and challenge to the overall internal security situation. There were, during the year, a number of incidents of terrorist attacks in different parts of the country, viz., the terrorist attack on a CRPF Camp in Rampur, serial bomb blasts in Jaipur, Bangaluru, Ahmedabad, Delhi, Tripura, Imphal and Guwahati, and on November 26, 2008 the dastardly attack by terrorists in Mumbai in which around 166 civilians and police/security forces personnel were killed, including 26 foreign nationals, and several hundred persons were injured. The Government has been, on a continuing basis, reviewing the security arrangements in the light of emerging challenges and a number of important decisions had been taken and measures had been put in place in the past few years. Further, detailed reviews were undertaken in the wake of the incidents in Mumbai and several other measures have been taken/are underway since then. These are briefly indicated in

the following paragraphs. More details are provided in the relevant sections of this report.

Central Para Military Forces

2.7.2 The Central Para Military Forces have been expanded by creation of 40 additional battalions (20 each in SSB and ITBP) with a view to strengthen border security arrangements. Recently, a proposal for the creation of 29 additional Battalions of the BSF has also been approved.

2.7.3 A decision has been taken to raise 10 specialised battalions in the CRPF, trained in commando/jungle warfare techniques to deal with naxalites and other extremists/insurgents, particularly in forested and other difficult areas and terrains.

2.7.4 The overall ceiling of recruitment in the CISF has been raised from 96,000 to 1,45,000, and the actual strength of the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) has been augmented by 15,000 personnel in the last four years. This includes, creation of posts for deployment at various airports in the country, the Delhi Metro, etc. The CISF Act, 1968, has also been amended, with the aim of enabling deployment of CISF in joint sector and private establishments which may be critical from the angle of internal security.

2.7.5 In the wake of the terrorist attack in Mumbai in November 2008, it has been decided to establish 4 operational regional hubs of the NSG, in Chennai, Hyderabad, Kolkata and Mumbai, and two regional centres of the NSG in Hyderabad and Kolkata, to cater to timely emergency response requirements in the event of possible terrorist acts and other emergencies. Action to operationalise the regional hubs is at an advanced stage. Five acres of land has also been allotted to the NSG at the airport in Delhi and a Quick Reaction Team has already been positioned there, to enable immediate movement in the event of any emergency. Notifications have also been issued under clause (d) of sub-section (i) of section 6 of the Aircraft Act, 1934 and section 137 of the NSG Act to empower the Government/NSG to requisition any

aircraft in the event of any emergency.

2.7.6 A scheme of Rs. 4,185 crore, is being implemented for modernization of CPMFs to increase their operational capabilities. Under this scheme, the CPMFs are being equipped with latest weapons, surveillance and communication equipment, vehicles, body protection gear/equipments, etc.

2.7.7 Procurement of one 100-seater Large Transport Aircraft and two 50-seater Medium Transport Aircraft for Air Wing of BSF is underway. A decision has also been taken to procure 8 Dhruv Helicopters from HAL. 4 helicopters are expected to be delivered during 2009 and the remaining in 2010. These aircraft will help the CPMFs to carry out their duties in a more effective manner and will also be used for logistical and other operational support purposes, particularly in the Naxalite affected areas.

Strengthening of Intelligence Machinery

2.7.8 Several measures have been taken to strengthen the intelligence set up which is the key to any efforts to counter terrorism and other forms of militancy, insurgency and extremism. Towards this end, a Multi-Agency Centre (MAC) has been created and operationalised in the Intelligence Bureau at Delhi. MAC has been obliged to share intelligence with all other intelligence agencies, including agencies of the State Governments and Union Territories. Likewise, all other agencies have been obliged to share intelligence with MAC. Subsidiary MACs (SMAC) have been established in many State capitals and, in due course, an SMAC will be established in every State capital. A Joint Task Force on Intelligence (JTFI) has also been set up. A large number of posts in the Intelligence Bureau, which had been frozen as a part of the policy of optimization, have also been revived and additional posts sanctioned, in order to strengthen its capabilities. Sanction has been accorded to the IB to fill up the vacancies in the executive cadre on an emergent basis.

2.7.9 Apart from the above efforts, action has also been initiated to set up a National Intelligence Grid to evolve online, and real time, flow of intelligence and

security related information between the Centre and the States. A proposal for an amount of Rs.147.80 crore has been approved on January 30, 2009, for this purpose, and the establishment of secure online connectivity between the various agencies represented in MAC, between MAC and the State level MACs (S-MACs), and the S-MACs and the State Special Branches, is at an advanced stage of implementation.

2.7.10 Special efforts are also being made to strengthen the intelligence capabilities of the States by earmarking funds for this purpose under the Police Modernisation Scheme and preparation of special intelligence sub-plans in certain extremism affected States with the assistance of the Central agencies. Detailed guidelines for restructuring/strengthening of the State Special Branches/Intelligence set up have been circulated to the States, and they have been asked to submit specific proposals for strengthening by way of equipment support, training, etc. It has been decided to launch a separate sub-scheme for the purpose under the Police Modernisation Scheme.

Measures for strengthening Legal and investigative framework for dealing with terrorism

2.7.11 The Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967 (UAPA) had been amended in 2004 to make provisions for dealing with terrorist offences and terrorist organizations. The Act has been further amended through the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Amendment Act, 2008, to strengthen the provisions for dealing with terrorism, both in terms of the substantive provisions pertaining to offences related to terrorism, and the procedural aspects of dealing with such offences, while making suitable provisions to prevent any misuse or harassment.

2.7.12 The National Investigation Agency (NIA) Act, 2008 has been enacted to provide for the setting up of the NIA to investigate selected cases of offences under certain Acts which have been mentioned in the Schedule and which, inter-alia, include the UAPA. Following this, the NIA has been constituted and a Director General appointed, along with other officers and staff,

and infrastructure. Three cases have since been taken over for investigation by the NIA.

Other measures

2.7.13 A nodal group has been set up in MHA to identify and oversee implementation of suitable counter measures to deal with Fake Indian Currency Notes (FICN) issues. CBI has been designated as the nodal agency to coordinate with the States in such cases. Detailed reviews were undertaken during the year and steps for further strengthening and streamlining the arrangements for information flow and monitoring, etc. are underway.

2.7.14 A working group had been set up in MHA in 2008 to streamline the production, distribution, transportation and storage of explosives in a comprehensive manner to prevent their leakage/misuse by terrorists/extremists. Based on its recommendations, inter-alia, Ammonium Nitrate, which has been widely used in explosive devices by terrorist/extremist groups, has been included as an explosive substance under the Explosives Substances Act, 1908, and notification in this regard was issued on December 15, 2008. The Rules under the Explosives Act, 1884 have also been extensively revised.

2.7.15 Action is being taken to strengthen the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) to give focused attention to supply management and control of narcotics trade.

2.7.16 Apart from measures for strengthening the Central and State Security and Police Forces, and other legislative and institutional mechanisms, for dealing with challenges on the internal security front, the Government has also laid stress on the need to involve the community and community organizations, by way of awareness building and soliciting their cooperation in dealing with terrorist threats both with the aim of preventing/pre-empting possible attacks and responding to such attacks if they occur so as to mitigate their impact. As a part of this, emphasis is also being laid on ensuring that private establishments

concerned with hotels, malls, multiplexes, public entertainment places, etc. which have large footfalls and can become soft targets, are also sensitized and mandatorily required to provide the necessary equipments and arrangements for surveillance, monitoring, access control, etc. Detailed guidelines, benchmarking such security requirements, have been prepared and circulated to the State Governments to take further action, and the matter is being pursued with them on a regular basis.

SCHEME FOR ASSISTANCE TO VICTIMS OF TERRORIST AND COMMUNAL VIOLENCE

2.7.17 Keeping in view the fact that the kind of terrorist attacks which have been witnessed in the past few years in different parts of the country, and other

forms of extremist and communal violence, can cause serious damage and trauma by way of loss of life among innocent citizens, the Government has approved a scheme for provision of assistance to the families of those who may be killed or incapacitated in such violence. Under the scheme, provision has been made for giving financial assistance to the tune of Rs. 3 lakhs as a fixed deposit to be placed in an account of an identified dependent/beneficiary, in addition to assistance for the education of orphans of such families under the ASSIST Scheme of the National Foundation for Communal Harmony and help for long-term requirements of medical assistance that may arise as a result of such violence. Detailed guidelines regarding the scheme have been circulated to the State Governments.
