

Fourteenth Lok Sabha**Session : 10****Date : 07-03-2007****Participants : [Patil Shri Shivraj V.](#)**

Title: The Minister of Home Affairs made a statement regarding the assassination of Shri Sunil Kumar Mahto, MP, in a naxal attack on 4th March, 2007.

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL): Hon. Speaker, Sir, I rise, with a deep sense of grief and anguish, to inform the august House of the tragic assassination of Shri Sunil Kumar Mahto, hon. MP, Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (JMM) and two of his bodyguards and a local JMM leader at about 5.30 p.m. on 4th March, 2007 in village Baguria under Ghatshila Police Station of East Singhbhum district of Jharkhand State. Three other persons also received bullet injuries.

Hon. MP had gone there to witness a local-level football match along with four security personnel of Jharkhand Armed Police and other JMM supporters. Armed assailants holding small arms and posing as villagers were present among the spectators. In a planned move, the naxalites numbering about 40-45 including women members, suddenly overpowered the bodyguards, snatched their weapons and fired at the hon. MP and his bodyguards. The naxals took away four INSAS rifles and ammunition with them. According to initial reports, the assailants raised pro-Naxalite slogans after the killings.

Immediately after the receipt of the information, police force from Ghatshila P.S. rushed to the place of occurrence. S.P. Purulia (in West Bengal) was contacted for sealing the nearby inter-State border. Combing operations on both sides of the border are in progress. Reinforcements from State headquarters have been sent. DGP, Jharkhand and I.G. South Chotanagpur are camping at Jamshedpur to supervise anti-naxal operations in the area. The State has been put on high alert.

The Government of India condemns this inhuman and tragic incident. Hon.

* Placed in Library. See No. LT 5862/07

Minister of State for Home (Shri Sriprakash Jaiswal) has visited the State and assured the State Administration that the Centre will provide all possible support and assistance. The Ministry of Home Affairs is maintaining a close watch on the situation.

The Central Government provides financial, technical and manpower-related assistance to the naxal affected States under various schemes of the Home Ministry.

Under the Police Modernisation Scheme, Rs. 182.72 crore have been provided to Jharkhand in last six years. During the current year, a Special Grant of Rs. 15 crore is being given to the State for purchase of

telecommunication, weaponry and de-mining equipment. Jharkhand has been provided Rs. 20.92 crore under the Security Related Expenditure (SRE) Scheme till date. [\[MSOffice1\]](#)

To address the issue on the socio-economic front, under the Backward District Initiative Scheme, so far Rs. 450 crore have been released to Jharkhand. The State has utilised Rs. 348.18 crore.

In addition, the State has been provided :

- 16 armoured vehicles
- 5 battalions of CRPF continuously for the last three years.
- Sanction for three IR battalions has been given by the Centre. The State has raised one battalion till now. Central Government will provide Rs. 20.75 crore per battalion against Rs. 13 crore per battalion being provided earlier.

Under the SRE, till date Rs. 218.52 crore have been disbursed to naxal-affected States. Under this Scheme, reimbursement is given to the States for expenditure on ammunition, mobility for police personnel, rehabilitation of surrendered naxals, *ex gratia* relief to killed civilians and security forces, insurance to security forces etc. The total expenditure under police modernisation is of the level of about Rs. 4,000 crore since 2000-01. The Sashastra Seema Bal has been deployed for providing security on Indo-Nepal border. Further, 33 battalions of CRPF have been provided to the naxal-affected States, which involves an expenditure of about Rs. 1,200 crore. CPMFs have also been directed to fill 40 per cent vacancies from youth of naxal-affected areas.

While the naxal problem in the country is of serious nature, combined efforts of the State and the Central Governments have shown some level of containment. Andhra Pradesh has achieved noteworthy success in controlling the problem through Special Forces, namely, Greyhounds and through other measures.

In the country as a whole, the incidents of naxal violence declined from 1608 in 2005 to 1509 in 2006, signifying a 6.15 per cent decline.

Central Government has also put in place, a strong mechanism for monitoring naxal activities and for evolving strategies to counter and closely address the problem.

However, we certainly need greater concerted and co-operative efforts between the States *inter se*, as well as between the Centre and the States to achieve more acceptable results. We expect that the motivation and dedication of the State police, coupled with financial, technical support which includes equipment and manpower support from the Government of India along with developmental programmes in naxal affected areas will have a significant impact on this problem.

... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: We can have a discussion on this. He has made a statement.

... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: We can have a discussion on this. I am not denying that.

... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Give Notice. We shall have a discussion.

श्री देवेन्द्र प्रसाद यादव (झंझारपुर) : हमने नोटिस दिया है।

... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: He has made an exhaustive statement.

... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, please co-operate. Please sit down. At the earliest opportunity, he has come and made a statement on a very serious incident where you have lost a valued colleague. This matter is so important. Let us not just have cross-talks here. We can have a structured and proper discussion on this. I shall allow you to do that. Nobody can ignore the seriousness of this matter. The Hon. Minister has come and stated the seriousness.

... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY (PURI): I would like to ask a question whether the security arrangements were adequate.

MR. SPEAKER: He has answered about the adequacy.

... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: No, Shri Dasgupta.

... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA (PANSKURA): Sir, the security measures undertaken by the State Government at the behest of the Central Government ... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat. If I allow you, I have to allow everybody. I am sorry.

... (*Interruptions*)[\[s2\]](#)

MR. SPEAKER: Please cooperate with the Chair.

... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: We are having disturbed proceedings in the House. Therefore, please cooperate.

... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA : Sir, the hon. Minister should have expressed sorrow over this incident. We have lost our colleague, and he says that ... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : Please read the first sentence of my statement. ... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I have expressed it on behalf of the House.

... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA : Sir, he should have expressed sorrow. ... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Please do not make such insinuation. Do not do it.

... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: A Bill is to be introduced.

... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I would not allow this.

... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, it has been decided that we should start the discussion on the Motion of Thanks immediately after the Question Hour is over and Papers are laid, but I am allowing Prof. Ram Gopal Yadav and other hon. Members of his Group in view of the sentiments of our hon. Friends. It is only an exception for him today.

Prof. Yadav, please try to be as brief as possible.

... (*Interruptions*)

प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव (संभल) : श्रीमान्, आपने अनुमति दी। ...(व्यवधान)

योगी आदित्यनाथ (गोरखपुर) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, ...(व्यवधान)

MR. SPEAKER: This is very unfortunate. थोड़ा डिसीप्लिन मानिए। बैठ जाइए प्लीज।

... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Not a word is being recorded.

... (*Interruptions*)

योगी आदित्यनाथ : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैंने भी लिखकर दिया है। ...(व्यवधान)

अध्यक्ष महोदय :आपने जो दिया है, वह मैं देखूंगा। आपका मैटर अंडर कंसीडरेशन है।

...(व्यवधान)

MR. SPEAKER: Your matter is under consideration. Only Prof. Ram Gopal Yadav's observations should be recorded.

(*Interruptions*) ...*

MR. SPEAKER: You have no respect for the Members and the colleagues here. You disturb them when they speak. Is this the way to show respect to your colleagues?

... (*Interruptions*)

* Not recorded