

Insurgency in Assam

796. SHRI PRAKANTA WARISA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the insurgency problem is continuously increasing in North Cachar Hills and other areas of Assam;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) the effective measures being taken or proposed to be taken by Government to solve the insurgency problem in Assam;

(d) the latest development regarding the negotiation with major insurgent groups of North-East region made by Government;

(e) the details of the outcome; and

(f) if not, how Government propose to solve the increasing problem faced by the people of Assam?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) and (b) It cannot be said that the insurgency problem is increasing in North Cachar Hills and other areas of Assam.

(c) Government has taken various steps to bring the law and order situation in Assam under control. These include, inter alia, deployment of additional para-military Forces and Army in the state, coordinated action by Army; Para-Military and State Police for counter insurgency operations; declaration of United Liberation Front of Asom (ULFA), National Democratic Front of Boroland (NDFB) National Socialist Council of Nagaland (NSCN) and Bodo Liberation Tiger (BLT) as unlawful associations under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967; detention of militants under NS A etc. Regular review of the situation, both at State and Central Government level is being made. This has helped to keep the situation in Assam under control.

(d) and (e) During his recent visit to Assam the Prime Minister indicated Government's willingness to discuss with the militants their legitimate grievances. But no talks have as yet taken place.

(f) Government proposes to take steps on various fronts to solve the problem faced by people of Assam. These include, inter alia,

(i) counter insurgency measures to bring law and order situation under control.

(ii) discussion with various political groups like AASU Bodogroups etc. to resolve political issues.

(iii) speedier economic development of the State.

(iv) continued efforts to bring the insurgent groups to the discussion table.

Terrorism in North-East

797. DR. B.B DUTTA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made any assessment about the latest rising wave of terrorist violence in North-Eastern States;

(b) if so, the total loss of property and number of persons who lost their lives during the last six months; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to bring the terrorist outfits into the national mainstream '.

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. It cannot be said that there is any rising wave of terrorist violence in the North Eastern States. The number of civilians and security personnel killed in North Eastern States during the last six months are given below:

State	Civilians	Security Forces
Assam	119	27
Nagaland	17	12
Manipur	41	57
Mizoram	-	-
Tripura	75	21
Meghalaya	2	2
Arunachal Pradesh	-	1

Details of loss caused to public property are not available.

(c) Government has repeatedly appealed to the various underground groups to hold talks in order to resolve the issues involved. As recently as on April 15, 1998, the Prime Minister, in his Press Statement at Guwahati had stated "To all those who have strayed from the paths of togetherness, whether in Assam or other States of the North East, I extend an