

Front have been declared as unlawful by the Central Government under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967. The State Government of Assam have prepared an 'Action Plan' for dealing with the activities of United Liberation Front of Assam. The Central Government have provided

Central Forces to the State Governments.

(b) The details of incidents of Insurgency during the last 3 months (from February to April, 1990) in the States affected by the activities of extremists are given below;

Name of the State	No. of Incidents	Persons Killed
Assam	27	16
Nagaland	7	2
Manipur	8	1

Arrest of Anand Margis in Punjab

914. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that two Anand Marg activists have been arrested in Punjab; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Suresh Kumar, resident of Anand Nagar, District Purulia, West Bengal and Ravinder Singh Yadav resident of Gazipur, Uttar Pradesh were apprehended by BSF authorities on 14th April, 1990 in district Amritsar, Punjab while they were carrying a suitcase. The suitcase contained unauthorised fire arms. The two individuals alongwith the seized weapons were handed over to the police. A criminal case has been registered.

Telephone charges in India

915. SHRI MENDAY PADMANA BHAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the constantly rising telephone charges in India are contrary to what is happening overseas;

(b) what are the reasons for the high costs of telephones and their use;

(c) whether the new technology has not been properly utilised to make calls cheaper;

(d) what steps are likely to be taken to provide better concessions during non-peak hours for the use of phones; and

(e) whether the public is being victimised by this monopoly?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) The telephone charges depend on a number of factors, such as cost of equipment, cost of power and operative and maintenance costs including the cost of input materials and staff expenses.

It may also be mentioned that the charges for telephones in India are lower than those in many countries.

(b) The major portion of telephone network is analogue. Large number of electro-mechanical exchanges are in service. These exchanges require larger maintenance effort both in terms of manpower and in terms of spares.

Though the number of telephones which was less than 80,000 at the time