Now, certainly, if there is an offer for talks from these leaders of ULFA, we will be very happy to hold talks with them and when talks take place, certainly, they will be treated in a dignified manner.

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: That means it's not surrender.

SHRIP. CHIDAMBARAM: I have answered, Sir.

श्री विश्वजीत देमारी: सभापित जी, मैं मंत्री महोदय से यह जानना चाहता हूं कि जिस तरह से आज अत्फा के अरविंदो राजखोआ और राजू बरुआ को arrest करने के बाद, उनके साथ negotiation करने के लिए appeal कर रहे हैं, कोशिश कर रहे हैं। हम लोगों को अखबार से पता चला है कि NDFB के रंजन दैमारी चेयरमैन और NLFT के विश्वमोहन देव वर्मा को भी अरेस्ट किया हुआ है। क्या इन लोगों से भी अल्फा की तरह बात करने के लिए हमारी सरकार की तरफ से हम प्रयास करेंगे या अपील करेंगे? दूसरी बात यह है कि NDFB जो negotiation कर रहा है, उन लोगों ने क्या demand दी है? उन लोगों ने यहां negotiation करने के बाद, असम में जाकर एक आम सभा organise की है। वे लोग बोल रहे हैं कि पृथक्क बोडोलैण्ड, separate बोडोलेण्ड देने के बारे में अभी बात चल रही है। वहां पृथक्क राज्य या separate बोडोलेण्ड का एक sentiment है और इसको लेकर वहां एक नया जागरण हो रहा है। मैं जानना चाहूंगा कि आपकी NDFB के साथ क्या बात हो रही है तथा अल्फा से जिस तरह से अपील की है, उस तरह से NDFB और NLFT के साथ arrest करने के बाद अपील करेंगे या नहीं करेंगे?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, my appeal is common to all insurgent groups in the North-East. They must give up any demand for sovereignty. They must abjure violence and lay down arms and then, certainly, the way is open to talks. That applies to all the groups in the North-East. I think a clear, categorical, and firm stand on these lines has paid dividends in the last few weeks and in the last few months.

As far as the NDFB is concerned, there is a pro-talk faction in the NDFB and, at the moment, talks are under way with the pro-talk faction through the interlocutor. As far as the anti-talk faction led by Ranjan Daimary is concerned, I don't know where he is and I don't know what his status is.

Action plan to eradicate Maoist menace

*283. PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether some parts of the country are affected by the Maoist violence;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the steps taken by Government to free the country from such violence;
- (d) whether it is a fact that Maoists get assistance from across the border;
- (e) whether Government contemplates any political solution to the problem;
- (f) if so, the details thereof; and
- (g) the action plan, if any, formulated by Government to eradicate the Maoist menace forever?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): (a) to (g) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) The details are given in the Annexure.

(c) to (g) Government has adopted an integrated approach in dealing with LWE activities in the area of security, development and public perception. State Governments deal with the various issues related to naxalite activities in the States. The Central Government supplements their efforts in several ways. These include deployment of Central Paramilitary Forces (CPMFs) and Commando Battalions for Resolute Action (CoBRA); sanction of India Reserve (IR) battalions; setting up of Counter Insurgency and Anti-Terrorism (CIAT) schools; modernization and upgradation of the State Police and their Intelligence apparatus under the Scheme for Modernization of State Police Force (MPF Scheme); re-imbursement of security-related expenditure under the Security Related Expenditure (SRE) scheme; filling up critical infrastructure gaps under the scheme for Special Infrastructure in Leftwing Extremist affected States; assistance in training of State Police through Ministry of Defence, Central Police Organizations and Bureau of Police Research and Development; sharing of intelligence; facilitating inter-State coordination; launching special intra-state and inter-state coordinated joint operations, assistance in community policing and civil actions and assistance in development works through a range of schemes of different Central Ministries.

There is no evidence to indicate that the Maoists are getting any assistance from across the border.

State Government have, from time to time, appealed to the Left Wing Extremists to abjure violence and hold talks with the Government on issues that are of concern to them. As far as the Central Government is concerned, it will welcome such talks between State Governments and Left Wing Extremists provided Left Wing Extremists abjure violence and give up their so-called "armed struggle".

PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Sir, in fact, this question was subjected for discussion in the House on 'internal security' wherein the Minister dealt with most of the points, quite convincingly also. But, however, I am not satisfied with the answer he has given today. Sir, the first sentence of the answer says, "Government has adopted an integrated approach in dealing with LWE activities in the area of security, development and public perception". But, the whole page of the answer deals with action taken from the security angle, and only makes a casual mention of the development. So, this approach is not acceptable. Sir, this Maoist menace should be seen as a problem not just of law and order, but, equally or more than a problem of economy and development. I don't want to take much time. I would like to know whether the Government has any special development programme for the LWE-affected areas; if so, give me the details, and if not, whether the Government will consider special package for development of these LWE-affected areas.

SHRI AJAY MAKEN: Mr. Chairman, Sir, last week, when the question of similar nature appeared, I had replied in detail as to what the Government is doing as far as the developmental front is concerned.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN: But you did not give it in the answer.

SHRI AJAY MAKEN: I am just telling you now. Sir, the Government has come out with a focus area approach in which 34 districts of eight States are chosen for special attention on planning, implementation and monitoring of development schemes. Out of these, eight most affected districts in four States have been selected in Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Orissa and Jharkhand for integrated security and development action plan. Three specific schemes are being implemented for these areas. First and foremost, the road requirement plan has been prepared for the National Highways, State Highways and major district roads in these areas for which Rs. 7300 crores have been allocated. Under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana, three years' prospective plan for all habitations of 250 and above in tribal areas, and 500 and above in plain areas are being taken up and these norms are much less than what the normal norms are. Hundred per cent Central assistance for Ashram schools in tribal sub-plan areas and hostels for ST girls and boys are being sanctioned. Besides, 69 schemes of 20 different Ministries are also underway, and all these schemes and different plans are being monitored at the level of Cabinet Secretary. Under the Backward District Initiative Scheme also, we had sanctioned Rs. 2475 crores in 55 Naxaliteinfested districts. On the request of the Ministry of Home Affairs, the Ministry of Environment and Forests has allowed one hectare of forest land for non-forest purposes and for social and physical infrastructure, including schools and other social activities. Also, the Ministry of Environment and Forests has allowed us to convert all kutcha village roads into pucca village roads.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN: If these are the development programmes, I am satisfied. Sir, the Minister, in his reply, in the last para said, "From time to time, the Government have appealed to the Left Wing Extremists to abjure violence and hold talks with the Government on issues that are of concern to them". This is an appeal made by the Government of India. But, in the reply, in this House, the hon. Minister said that Left Wing Extremists, through somebody, informed that they are not prepared to abjure violence. What does that mean? It means that the violence will continue, the Government will continue and the menace will continue. What I want to know is whether the hon. Minister will make a special effort to establish contacts with their leaders directly or through the middlemen or through the appointment of some interlocutors acceptable to them so that even when they say that they don't abjure violence there is some communication with them, and we can find out whether there is any possibility of having a solution to the problem.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, I appreciate the sentiment of the hon. Member. But, I think, there is no room at all for sending contradictory signals in this behalf. As I said in the discussion last week, we must understand the character of Naxalite movement. Once we understand the character of Naxalite movement, I think, it is imperative that we require that they should abjure violence before we hold talks. I reiterate that if the Naxalites abjure violence, we are willing to hold talks with them on any matter of concern, whether it is development or mining or infrastructure or governance infrastructure. On any matter of concern we are willing to hold talks

with them. There are, of course, a number of well-meaning individuals and groups which offer to mediate these talks between the Government and the Naxalites. I encourage them. But, so far, I have not received any concrete offer on behalf of the Naxalites offering to abjure violence and come forward for talks.

श्री राजनीति प्रसाद: सर, मेरा एक ही प्रश्न है और वह यह है कि भारत के विभिन्न जिलों में जहां-जहां पर भी नक्सलाइट मूवमेंट है, चूंकि उन जिलों में नक्सलाइट्स के बड़े-बड़े लीडर्स बंद हैं। जब आप उत्फा से बात कर सकते हैं, साथ ही दूसरे अन्य कई लोगों से भी बात कर सकते हैं, तो क्या उन लोगों को भी बुला करके कोई पीस टॉक कर सकते हैं या उनको बुला करके शांति की बात कह सकते हैं? उनसे बात करने के बाद क्या आपको कुछ सफलता मिल सकती है? मेरा बस इतना ही प्रश्न है।

श्री अजय माकन: मेरे ख़याल से मेरे सीनियर कुलीग ने बड़े विस्तार से इस बात का जवाब दे दिया है। जब तक हिंसा नहीं त्यागी जाए, तब तक उनसे बात कैसे की जा सकती है? अपने लैवल पर अलग-अलग ग्रुप्स एवं अलग-अलग लोगों ने, जिनका अच्छा मक़सद है, ऐसे लोगों ने जब मेरे सीनियर कुलीग से इस बारे में बात की, तो उन्होंने उनको एनकरेज किया और कहा कि अगर आप बात करवा सकते हैं और हिंसा त्याग करके वे बात-चीत की टेबल पर आ सकते हैं, तो वह बहुत ही अच्छा होगा। लेकिन अभी तक ऐसा कोई प्रस्ताव सामने नहीं आया है।

श्री विनय कटियार: माननीय सभापति जी, मैं माननीय गृह मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूं कि क्या पिछले दस सालों के अन्दर उल्फा और माओइस्ट्स से राजनीतिक लाभ उठाने के लिए या चुनाव में उनका सहयोग लेने के लिए किसी राजनीतिक दल ने कोई समझौता किया था? अगर किया था तो क्यों?

श्री अजय माकन: हमारे पास इस बात की औपचारिक रूप से कोई जानकारी नहीं है।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Prasanta Chatterjee. ... (Interruptions)...

श्री विनय कटियार: सर, मेरे प्रश्न का उत्तर नहीं आया है ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please, one question at a time. Please. ... (Interruptions)...

श्री विनय कटियार: हमें आपका संरक्षण चाहिए, लेकिन मेरे प्रश्न का उत्तर अभी नहीं आया है(व्यवधान)... यह तो क्वेश्चन नहीं है ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री रुद्रनारायण पाणि: सर, मंत्री महोदय ने तो...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति: पाणि जी, प्लीज़ आप बैठ जाइए ...(व्यवधान)...

SHRI BALBIR PUNJ: Sir, everybody knows that in the 2004 Assembly elections, the Congress ... (Interruptions)...

श्री विनय कटियार: सभापति महोदय, मंत्री जी ने जो उत्तर दिया है ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please. ...(Interruptions)... Please sit down. ...(Interruptions)... विनय कटियार जी, आपका सवाल हो गया है ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री रुद्रनारायण पाणि: सर, यह जो उत्तर दिया गया है ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Pany, I am cautioning you again. ... (Interruptions)...

श्री विनय कटियार: उल्फा से उन्होंने समझौता ...(व्यवधान)... नक्सलियों से किसने किया ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति: आप बैठ जाइए प्लीज़ ...(व्यवधान)... आप बैठ जाइए ...(व्यवधान)... नहीं-नहीं, आपने सवाल पूछ लिया है, एक सवाल से ज्यादा आप नहीं पूछ सकते हैं ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री विनय कटियार: नहीं-नहीं सर, हम संरक्षण चाहते हैं, लेकिन मेरे प्रश्न का उत्तर नहीं आया है ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री बलबीर पुंज: 2004 में आंध्र प्रदेश के विधान सभा के चुनाव के पहले क्या कांग्रेस ने माओइस्ट्स से हाथ नहीं मिलाया था ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have not called out your name. I am sorry. ...(Interruptions)... Please resume your places. ...(Interruptions)... Please resume your places. ...(Interruptions)... Please don't create indiscipline in the House. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री विनय कटियार: सभापति जी, हम जो पूछना चाहते हैं ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please. ... (Interruptions)... Please.

श्री बलबीर पुंज: 2004 के चुनाव से पहले कांग्रेस ने आंध्र प्रदेश में क्या उनसे समझौता किया था?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please. ...(Interruptions)... Please. Shri Prasanta Chatterjee. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री विनय कटियार: उन्होंने अनौपचारिक किया था क्या ...(व्यवधान)... उन्होंने कहा कि औपचारिक जानकारी नहीं है तो क्या अनौपचारिक किया था ...(व्यवधान)... अगर किसी प्रकार का समझौता नहीं किया था, तो भी बता दें(व्यवधान)...।

श्री सभापति: अगर आप समझते हैं कि सवाल का जवाब misleading है, तो आप उसका notice अलग से दीजिए। उसके लिए अलग procedures हैं।...(व्यवधान)...

श्री विनय कटियार: सर, ...(व्यवधान)... अगर वह जवाब देना चाहते हैं ...(व्यवधान)...

SHRI BALBIR PUNJ: Sir, the Minister is trying to avoid the question.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You raise it by appropriate methods. This is not the way to do it. Please go ahead.

श्री लिलत किशोर चतुर्वेदी: सर, ...(व्यवधान)... सवाल का जवाब अगर नहीं आएगा...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति: नहीं, एक सवाल का एक जवाब।...(व्यवधान)...

श्री रामदास अग्रवाल: सर, ...(व्यवधान)... आपने कहा कि एक सवाल का एक जवाब ...(व्यवधान)... अगर उसका जवाब नहीं आया तो ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति: देखिए ...(व्यवधान)... अगर आप इस जवाब को unsatisfactory समझते हैं, तो आप लोग लिखित में इसका notice दीजिए ...(व्यवधान)... अगर जवाब misleading है या गलत है, तो उसके लिए दूसरे procedures हैं ...(व्यवधान)... Please go ahead.

SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE: Sir, the hon. Prime Minister has described the Maoist violence as the greatest danger. Now one of his Cabinet colleagues has openly and repeatedly said that there is no Maoist in West Bengal where Joint Operation is going on in certain areas. Such utterance is undermining the Joint Operation.

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is your question?

SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE: What is the hon. Minister's reaction on this?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, I cannot react to a statement attributed to a Minister and which is published in newspapers. I can only answer questions on matters that are within my knowledge and within the knowledge of the Ministry of Home Affairs. In the heat of political

debate in West Bengal we find that a number of statements have been made by different political parties and different political leaders. Obviously, Sir, you will not ask me to comment upon the correctness or otherwise of one statement or the other.

Funds for maintenance of NHs in Maharashtra

*284. SHRI Y.P. TRIVEDI: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether funds were provided for maintenance of National Highways (NHs) in Maharashtra from 2005 to 2009;
 - (b) if so, the details of funds provided, year-wise;
 - (c) the amount spent from the funds provided; and
 - (d) if not, the reasons for not providing the funds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. The Ministry is regularly providing funds for maintenance of National Highways so as to keep them in traffic worthy conditions through the State PWD/NHAI/BRO. The details of the funds allocated/spent from 2005 up to 30.11.2009 are given in Statement which is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

Details of Allocation and Utilization of Funds for maintenance and repairs of National Highways in the State of Maharashtra

Year	Amount allocated (Rs. in crores)	Amount utilized (Rs. in crores)
2006-07	64.74	64.18
2007-08	68.14	68.14
2008-09	94.94	94.94
2009-10	84.24	43.78*

^{(*}up to 30.11.2009)

SHRI Y.P. TRIVEDI: Sir, the figures given by the hon. Minister show a very depressing picture. For the year, 2009-10, whereas, the funds allocated were Rs. 84.24 crores, the amount actually utilised is only 50 per cent, that is, Rs. Rs. 43.78 crores. I would like to submit that maintenance of Highways is as important as building it. Will the Government consider giving stretches of Highways to private corporations to maintain them and get in return only the advertisement value of their products as it is done in some other countries?

SHRI R.P.N. SINGH: Sir, the funds for maintenance of National Highways in the State of Maharashtra has been allocated as Rs. 84 crores. Like in other States, this money is allocated to