

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3159
ANSWERED ON:11.05.2006
PEACE TALKS WITH ULFA
Barman Shri Ranen

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Tezpur based 4 Corps Headquarters issued a statement in September, 2005 indicating that United Liberation Front of Assam (ULFA) continued to indulge in heinous activities against the Nation and has shown no signs of giving up its terrorist activities of eschew the path of violence;

(b) if so, whether the Government has begun peace talks with ULFA and Army units have been asked to halt their operations against them; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE)

(a) to (c): A statement was issued by 4 Corps Headquarters in September 2005 in which it was mentioned that "United Liberation Front of Assam (ULFA) continues to carry out extortion, recruitment, killing and kidnapping of innocent people and has shown no signs of giving up its terrorist activities or eschew the path of violence".

The Government of India have held two rounds of talks with the People's Consultative Group (PCG) of Assam on 26th October 2005 and 7th February 2006. During second round of talks with PCG on 7.2.2006, it was agreed to examine and initiate a series of confidence building measures with regard to human right violations, issue of release of certain detainees in consultation with the State Government and maintenance of peaceful atmosphere in the State. The Army operations against the ULFA have not been called off so far.