

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:875
ANSWERED ON:13.07.2004
ACTIVITIES OF ULFA/NSCN (IM)
Deora Shri Milind Murlu

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the owners of tea gardens in upper Assam have received extortion notice from ULFA and NSCN (IM);
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken in the matter;
- (c) whether there was a brief lull following the Bhutanese Operation; and
- (d) if so, the reasons for not taking similar operation as was taken by Bhutan against insurgents?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGHUPATHY)

(a) & (b): As per reports United Liberation Front of Asom (ULFA) has served extortion notices to the owners of the tea-gardens of Assam. 10 cases have been registered and 30 persons have been arrested in this regard. Security of the tea belt has also been enhanced by deployment of additional security forces. However, no case of extortion notice by National Socialist Council of Nagaland {NSCN(IM)} in tea garden area has been reported.

(c) & (d): There was a general lull of militant activities in Assam after operation against Indian Insurgent Groups launched by the royal Bhutan Government. However, the activities of ULFA militants have again resurfaced in pre-dominantly Upper Assam area. Counter insurgency operations have been intensified in the entire tea belt.