

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:977

ANSWERED ON:01.08.2006

RELEASE OF ULFA LEADERS

Ahir Shri Hansraj Gangaram;Singh Shri Chandra Bhushan;Subba Shri Moni Kumar

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has agreed to release five important leaders of ULFA from jail after a meeting was held with PCG;
- (b) if so, the names of ULFA leaders for whom demands for release have been made;
- (c) whether ULFA has assured the Government that terrorist activities in Assam will be stopped after releasing ULFA leaders from Jail; and
- (d) if so, the details in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIS. REGUPATHY)

(a) to (d): The people's Consultative Group (PCG) of Assam constituted by the United Liberation Front of Asom (ULFA) held three rounds of talks with the Government on 26.10.2005, 7.2.2006 and 22.6.2006. During third round of talks held on 22.6.2006, responding to the points made by PCG, it was stated that their request for the release of five ULFA detenues would be considered favorably in consultation with Government of Assam. Simultaneously, PCG was urged to impress upon ULFA to ensure a peaceful and conducive environment, so that direct talks with Government of India are held at the earliest. PCG expressed satisfaction over Government of India's approach to negotiations that will help usher lasting peace in Assam. PCG also assured the Government of India that they would appeal to the ULFA to create a peaceful atmosphere in Assam, which will be conducive to holding direct talks.

It has been noted that security situation in Assam has by and large remained peaceful since the meeting of June 22, 2006.