

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:296

ANSWERED ON:27.07.2010

SRAVANA SAKA BLOCKADE IN MANIPUR

Das Gupta Shri Gurudas;Panda Shri Prabodh;Tarai Shri Bibhu Prasad

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the National Highways connecting Manipur with rest of the country had been blocked recently;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons there for;
- (c) the reaction of the Government thereto alongwith the measures taken in this regard;
- (d) whether the blockade has been lifted completely; and
- (e) if not, the steps taken by the Union Government to resolve the issue?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN)

(a) & (b): Yes, Madam. The economic blockade of National Highways No. 39 and 53 started in Manipur since April 6, 2010 with the call of United Naga Council (UNC) for 12 hours 'Chakka bandh' in protest against the holding of elections to the six Autonomous District Councils in the State. In support of the UNC, several other Naga organizations called for a week-long economic blockade of national highways from midnight of April 11, 2010. The situation got aggravated with Naga Students Federation (NSF) joining the agitation in protest against decision of the Government of Manipur not to allow Shri Th. Muivah, General Secretary, National Socialist Council of Nagaland (Isac/Muivah) [NSCN(IM)] into Manipur.

(c): The Government of Manipur was advised to take all measures to lift the blockade and ensure supply of essential commodities to general public. Additional Battalions of Central Paramilitary Forces were deployed for protection of highways in the State. To mitigate the sufferings of general public, food items and life -saving drugs were sent to the State by Air.

(d) & (e): The blockade has been lifted completely with effect from 18th June, 2010.