

Boundary Dispute Between Orissa and Adjacent States

840. SHRI BHAGABAN MAJHI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any steps have been taken by the Central Government to resolve the boundary dispute between Orissa and its adjacent States; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and since when the dispute has been pending?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) and (b) The Government of India is of the view that border disputes between the States should be resolved primarily by the State Governments concerned through discussions and mutual accommodation. The Government of Orissa has not sought Central intervention at present to resolve its boundary disputes with its neighbouring States.

Citizens Identity Card Scheme

841. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 193, given in the Rajya Sabha on the 24th February, 1999 and state:

(a) what is the present stage of the proposal to introduce multipurpose National Identity Cards to all the citizens of the country;

(b) the estimated amount of money and manpower required for this purpose;

(c) whether the voters' identity cards issued by the Election Commission would be done away with; if not, the reasons for double expenditure for the same purpose; and

(d) what safeguards have been taken to remove the apprehensions of the people, especially those belonging to the minority community, against the possible misuse of these cards?