

Fencing of Assam Border

851. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the plan to fence the Assam border is under consideration;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the other steps proposed to check ISI menace?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) and (b) Fencing of 152.3 kms of Assam-Bangladesh Border has been sanctioned. About 140 kms of the fencing has been completed as on 31.10.1999. Fencing of additional 71.5 kms of Assam-Bangladesh border is scheduled in IInd phase.

(c) Other measures taken by the Government to check ISI menace include raising of additional battalions of Border Security Force, reduction of gaps between the border outpost, intensification of patrolling both on the land and the reiverine border, increase in the number of outpost towers, provision of surveillance equipments. State Governments have also been sensitised about ISI activities and advised to be vigilant in the matter.

ISI Activities in Coastal Gujarat

852. SHRI ANANTRAY DEV SHANKAR DAVE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that ISI is active in the western region of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to curb the activities of ISI in the Western Coastal area of Gujarat?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. Certain instances of suspected involvement of Pak ISI in the Western region of the country particularly Gujarat and Rajasthan have come