

It is clarified from the statement that funds were fully utilized for the development of border infrastructure.

The Border Area Development Programme (BADP) is also under implementation in the bordering districts of 17 States. The annual allocation is given by the Planning Commission for BADP. There was an allocation of Rs. 580 crore in 2007-08, Rs. 635 crore in 2008-09 and Rs. 635 crore again in 2009-10. This amount was fully sanctioned to the States and was utilized.

Farmers not allowed to take agricultural labourers beyond fencing by BSF

2623. SHRI K.E. ISMAIL:

SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry is aware that under Fazilka Tehsil in Ferozepur district in Punjab, the agricultural land of many farmers fell beyond the fencing near international border;

(b) if so, whether the farmers are not generally permitted to take agricultural labourers along with them to work on their own land by BSF;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether Government is considering to evolve some mechanism so that labourers are allowed to go along with the farmers to work on those land;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the details of the measures of Government to save those border region farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) to (f) As per the available information, about 6602 acres land (210 acres panchayat and 6392 acre private land) falls ahead of border fencing along Indo-Pak border in Ferozepur district, in the State of Punjab.

All land owners/farmers whose land falls ahead of fencing are allowed to cultivate their agricultural land. There are fencing gates at reasonable distances for regulated entry and exit of the people. These farmers are permitted by BSF to take agricultural labourers, cattle, machinery, etc. along with them to work on their land after making proper entry in Gate Register. The labourers engaged by the farmers have to carry prescribed documents for their identification issued by district authorities.

Regular periodic meetings are held at the local level by BSF for the redressal of public grievances. However, to ensure safety and security of farmers working ahead of the fence, the following measures have been taken:

- (i) Kissan Guards are deployed ahead of fencing along the international border, to inculcate a sense of security among the farmers and labourers.
- (ii) Mahila constables have also been deployed to frisk lady farmers/labourers and to address their problems during hours of working in the fields.
- (iii) Local field Commanders hold regular meetings with villagers, Sarpanch and Gram Panchayat Members to resolve border related problems.
- (iv) Battalion Commandants/Sector Commanders of BSF also hold meetings to address their grievances.

Interlinking police DNA laboratories

2624. SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN:

SHRI K.E. ISMAIL:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Police DNA laboratories in the country are very short in numbers against the need;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the locations;
- (c) whether Government is considering to increase the number of these laboratories;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the existing laboratories are interlinked;
- (f) if so, the details thereof; and
- (g) if not, the steps taken by Government to interlink those?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b) DNA profiling facilities are available at 18 Central and State laboratories in respect of Criminal and Civil matters. The details are given in the Statement (See below).

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Under the Central Sector Scheme of 'Modernisation of Forensic Science Applications for Directorate of Forensic Science and its outlying units' Ministry of Home Affairs (with an outlay Rs. 200 crores under the XI Five Year Plan) there are 26 Schemes which *inter-alia* contain