

**Illegal cattle smuggling along Indo-Bangladesh border**

407. SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

- (a) the details of illegal cattle smuggling along the Indo-Bangladesh border and the steps taken to curb it;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the Dhubri district is used as a transit point to cross the cattle;
- (c) whether it is a fact that Bangladesh is one of the largest exporter of Red Meat to the West and due to the growing demands they are encouraging cattle smuggling; and
- (d) the steps taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) to (d) Smuggling of cattle has been reported through the porous and riverine portions of the border between India and Bangladesh which is not yet fully fenced and is characterized by thick vegetation, hills, forest areas, low-lying patches and thick population right upto zero line. All this factors makes the border vulnerable to illegal cross border activities including cattle smuggling. Leather/tannery and processed beef units in Bangladesh are mostly dependent upon smuggled Indian Cattle and purchase the same at lucrative rates. Export of processed beef to West Asian countries at lucrative rates is also one of the major reasons for cattle smuggling. Border Security Force which is deployed on the border has reported the details of seizure of cattle as below :

Year	Nos. of Cattle	
	Indo-Bangladesh Border	Dhubri District
2008	120547	9132
2009	114790	24303
2010	101381	18129
2011 (upto 6/11)	67409	2742

Government has adopted a multi-pronged approach to check cross border illegal activities which inter-alia includes :

- (i) Effective domination of the Border by carrying out round the clock surveillance of the Borders, viz patrolling, laying of nakas (border ambushes) and by deploying observation posts all along the International Border. Riverine segments of International Border are being patrolled and

dominated with the help of water crafts/speed boats/floating Border Out Posts of Border Security Force Water Wing.

- (ii) Erection of Border Fencing on the International Border.
- (iii) Flood lighting of the border to enhance the observation during night hours.
- (iv) Introduction of modern and Hi-Tech surveillance equipment such as Long Range Reconnaissance & Observation System (LORROS), Battle Field Surveillance Radars (BFSR), Handheld Thermal Imagers (HHTI), Night Vision Devices/Goggles (NVDs/NVGs) etc.
- (v) Up-gradation of intelligence network and coordination with sister agencies.
- (vi) Conduct of special operations along the Border.
- (vii) Frequent visit to Border by Unit Commander and other senior officers to supervise effective domination of the Border.

Besides above, Government have sanctioned 16 additional Battalions to augment Border Out Posts in riverine/hilly/vulnerable segment on Indc-Bangladesh Border. Further Government has sanctioned additional 383 Border Out Posts on Indo-Bangladesh Border to reduce inter-BOP distance for effective domination of the border.

#### **Crop loss due to untimely rains in A.P.**

408. SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has come to the notice of his Ministry that due to untimely rains between 15 and 22 April, 2011, more than 1.35 lakh hectares of crop has been lost in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) the details of the proposal sent by the Government of Andhra Pradesh for financial and other assistance from the Centre; and

(c) the action taken on the above request so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) No Sir.

(b) to (c) Does not arise.

#### **Prisoners in jails**

†409. MISS ANUSUIYA UIKEY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.