

Rs. 15 crore to Mizoram and Tripura respectively for fire services for the period 2011-12 to 2014-15.

(b) In disaster situations access for response teams is facilitated by all available and fastest means of transport including aircrafts and helicopters. Apart from specialist teams of NDRF, personnel from Armed forces, Central Armed Police Forces and Border Roads Organization available in or near the area are also mobilized. Medical aid component is part and parcel of the relief and response teams mobilized. The medical response arrangements of the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare includes deployment of Quick Rapid Response Team, support to the State in terms of drugs and equipment and deployment of public health teams to prevent the outbreak of any type of disease. Ministry of Health & Family Welfare has designated its regional office at Guwahati for providing emergency support functions. The Government medical store depot at Guwahati and Kolkata provide medical stores to North Eastern States during emergency due to natural calamities.

#### **Border fencing and floodlighting between Tripura and Bangladesh**

\*475. SHRI TARUN VIJAY : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether fencing and floodlighting the border between Tripura and Bangladesh is progressing at a slow pace;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the percentage of work done;

(d) when was the project sanctioned and what were the deadlines;

(e) how much money has already been released towards the payments for the work done, date of the payments along with executing agency; and

(f) whether National Project Construction Corporation Ltd. (NPCC) as an executing agency had any experience of fencing of such nature?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) to (c) 87% of fencing (746 km out of 856 km sanctioned) and 65% of floodlighting (462 km out of 718 km sanctioned) has been completed in the Tripura sector of the Indo-Bangladesh border. In addition, about 4% of fencing and 32% of floodlighting works are in progress. Only about 9% of fencing and about 3% of floodlighting works are yet to commence. The balance works are primarily delayed due to on-ground constraints *i.e.* pending land acquisition, habitation upto zero line in some cases, nature of terrain in some places-riverine, low lying etc.

(d) Fencing works in the Tripura sector were sanctioned in 2000 under Phase II of the fencing project and its targeted date of completion was March 31, 2012. Floodlighting works were sanctioned in 2008 and its targeted date of completion was also March 31, 2012. Revision of expected date of completion on grounds of implementation constraints is being proposed.

(e) Till March 31, 2012, an amount of Rs. 1009.00 crore has been spent on fencing works by the executing agencies in Tripura namely, the Central Public Works Department (CPWD), National Building Construction Corporation (NBCC), National Projects Construction Corporation (NPCC), Engineering Projects (India) Ltd., Border Roads Organisation (BRO), Tripura Public Works Department (TPWD).

Till March 31, 2012, an amount of Rs. 329.92 crore has been spent on floodlighting works by the executing agency viz. National Project Construction Corporation (NPCC) in Tripura.

(f) NPCC is a premier public sector construction company tasked with creation of infrastructure and execution of national level projects including those in remote/difficult areas.

#### **Formidable naval presence of China in Indian Ocean**

\*476. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the formidable naval presence of China in the Indian Ocean as reflected in their construction of ports in that region, as revealed by US Centre for a New American Security;

(b) if so, whether Indian territorial waters are adequately protected against any sudden claim made to their territory by China, if such sporadic episodes in the Himalayas are any indication; and

(c) whether Chinese are building ports in Chittagong in Bangladesh, Hambantota in Sri Lanka, Kyaupyu in Burma, etc. to assume supremacy in having their own sea lines of communication between Persian Gulf area and China itself?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY) : (a) to (c) The Government is aware of Chinese participation in the Indian Ocean Region in development projects like ports as well as anti-piracy operations and deep sea mining.

Government keeps a constant watch on all developments concerning our national security and commercial interests and takes all necessary measures to safeguard them in accordance with the prevailing security situations and strategic considerations.