

Facilities and allowances for BSF personnel

3621. SHRI BHARATSINH PRABHATSINH PARMAR :
SHRI PARSHOTTAM KHODABHAI RUPALA :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Ministry is considering special allowances to Border Security Force (BSF) personnel as they are performing duty to protect national sovereignty in extreme climatic condition;
- (b) whether Ministry provides sufficient and best quality protective clothes and facilities to BSF personnel keeping in view of climatic condition; and
- (c) whether Ministry provides any communication facility to BSF personnel as in many remote places there is lack of communication facility?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI JITENDRA SINGH) : (a) Government has already sanctioned Risk Allowance and Hardship Allowance to BSF personnel serving in difficult areas, *vide* Ministry of Home Affairs order dated 16.04.2009.

(b) Keeping in view the climatic conditions, BSF personnel have been provided with quality protective clothes and facilities. In cold areas extra blankets/clothing are provided.

(c) Ministry of Home Affairs has sanctioned 411 Nos. Digital Satellite Phone Terminal (DSPTs) for remote Border Out Posts (BOPs)/Forward Defended Localities (FDLs)/Company Operating Bases (COBs) for use by BSF personnel.

Causes of suicides of farmers

3622. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether National Human Rights Commission in Dec., 11 advised the Governments of Maharashtra and Andhra for Reports relating to suicides of farmers (680 in Maharashtra and 90 in Andhra);
- (b) if so, whether such Reports were received and considered by the Government of India also;
- (c) what is the gist of findings and the precise cause of suicides; and
- (d) apart from climate changes and inflation, did factors like increase in cost of inputs like fertilizers, un-remunerative prices for farm produce, etc. significantly contributed to this menace of suicides?