

**Inter-state border dispute in North-Eastern states**

4410. SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the border disputes among North-Eastern States, which promote tension and worsen situation on several occasions in Inter-State border areas have come to the notice of Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith State-wise details of incidents on border dispute occurred during the last three years, till date; and

(c) the details of steps being taken by Government to resolve the Inter-State border dispute and to determine border in North-Eastern Region (NER)?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) to (c) There are some boundary disputes between the States of Assam-Nagaland, Assam-Arunachal Pradesh and Assam-Meghalaya. Due to these disputes, tensions occasionally arise which sometimes flare up into the incidents of violence. As and when such situation arises, concerned State Governments are advised to maintain the *status quo*. Details of such incidents are available at the State level.

The approach of the Central Government has consistently been that inter-State boundary disputes can be resolved only with the willing cooperation of the State Governments concerned and that the Central Government works only as a facilitator for amicable settlement of the dispute in a spirit of mutual accommodation and understanding.

The Government of Assam had filed Original suit No. 2/88 and 1/89 in the Supreme Court of India for demarcation of boundaries between the states of Assam-Nagaland and Assam-Arunachal Pradesh respectively. The Supreme Court vide its judgment and order dated 25.9.2006 has appointed a Local Commission for identification of boundaries of the States of Assam-Nagaland and Assam-Arunachal Pradesh. The Local Commission is continuing its hearing. While hearing an application filed by Government of Nagaland in Original Suit No. 2/88, the Supreme Court vide its order dated 20.8.2010, *inter-alia*, directed that apart from continuation of the Local Commission, possibility to resolve the issue through mediation may also be explored and for this purpose appointed two Co-mediators. Meetings of the Co-mediators with the concerned State Counsels are held regularly.

In so far boundary dispute between Assam and Meghalaya is concerned, the Central Government has advised both the State Governments to settle the dispute amicably.