

Amendment) Bill, 2011, as passed by the State Assembly and reserved by the Governor of Karnataka, was received in the Ministry of Home Affairs on 29.04.2011.

(b) and (c) The Bill has been examined in consultation with the Ministry of Law and Justice (Legislative Department) and the Ministry of Labour and Employment. The comments on the Bill received from the Ministry of Labour and Employment have been sent to the State Government of Karnataka for their clarifications/comments on 11.06.2012 followed by a reminder on 30.07.2012.

Demand to declare disputed areas of Belgaum as UT

96. DR. PRABHAKAR KORE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that recently demand was made by the Maharashtra Assembly to the Centre to declare disputed areas of Belgaum and other border areas as Union Territory;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government is aware that the move was strongly opposed by people of Karnataka;

(d) if so, whether the Centre is taking steps to put a permanent end to the border issues to maintain harmonious living of all the people living in border areas of each State;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI JITENDRA SINGH): (a) to (c) No, Sir. No such demand has been received by the Central Government from the Maharashtra Assembly to declare disputed areas of Belgaum and other border areas as Union Territory.

(d) to (f) With a view to settle the boundary dispute between Maharashtra, Karnataka and Kerala, the Central Government constituted the one-man Mahajan Commission, which had submitted its report in August 1967. The dispute still persists since the Government of Karnataka insists on the implementation of the recommendations of the Mahajan Commission in toto, while the Government of Maharashtra does not accept the Commission's recommendations. The Government of Maharashtra has filed a suit No. 4 of 2004 in the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India, which is pending in the Apex Court.