

Release of caste-based data

2698. SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether data on the break-up of caste in the country has not been released so far;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the time by when the said data is likely to be released and made public?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) to (c) Sir, the caste related data, as enumerated in Socio Economic and Caste Census (SECC) has not yet been released. The Government has decided to constitute an Expert Group under the Chairmanship of Shri Arvind Panagariya, Vice-chairman, NITI AAYOG to classify and categorize the caste names returned in SECC. The Expert Group will be serviced by the Department of Social Justice and Empowerment.

Fencing along International Border in Gujarat

†2699. SHRI RAM VICHAR NETAM: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that fencing work has been approved for only 340 kilometres border out of the total 512 kilometres of International Border that Gujarat State shares with Pakistan and fencing of only 262.7 kilometres of the above border has been completed till now;
- (b) whether no steps have been taken for the fencing of remaining 262.7 kms. of border inspite of many meetings/correspondence held/made with the Ministry by the State Government since April, 2012; and
- (c) by when it is proposed to complete the remaining fencing work with regard to the above?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI KIREN RIJIJU): (a) to (c) The Government has sanctioned 340 km. stretch of fence along the Indo-Pakistan Border in Gujarat. Out of this, 280 km. of fence work has been completed. The work in balance stretch was facing

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.