

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS**Progress of fencing along Indo-Pak Border**

1469. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the wire fencing of the entire International Border between India and Pakistan and along the Line of Control on the border, has been completed; and

(b) if not, when the above work is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) The progress of wire fencing on the International Border (IB) and along the Line of Control (LoC) on the Indo-Pak border is as follows:—

	Length of Border Fenced so far (in Kms)	Remaining length of border to be fenced (in Kms)	Target year of completion
IB	1688.42	307	within 2005
LoC	655	35	within 2004

Non-completion of barbed fencing along Indo-Pak Border

1470. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the barbed wire fencing of three Indian villages—Hethlanga, Chironda and Silikut, spread over merely 565 hectare area in Uri sector on the Indo-Pak border in northern Kashmir had been left near No Mans Land between India and Pakistan;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government propose to cover the said area with barbed wire fencing to ensure the security of the people of above said villages; and

(d) if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (d) The alignment of the fence is based on operational considerations to check infiltration and was finalised in consultation with the civil administration. The three villages of Hethlanga, Chironda and Silikut in Uri Sector, lie between the Line of Control (LoC) and the fence. It is incorrect to state that these villages lie in 'No Mans Land' as it is inside Indian territory and the Indian Army is deployed there and these villages are protected just as other villages near the LoC.

Ship reporting System

1471 SHRIMATI JAMANA DEVI BARUPAL: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether in a bid to have a better coordination in search and rescue missions on the high seas and overcome threat of piracy, Indian Coast Guard officials have discussed with American and Japanese counterparts, the possibility of linking its ship reporting system with that of the two countries;

(b) if so, whether any agreement in this regard has been reached;

(c) if so, whether US, Japanese and Australian reporting systems are already inter-linked but the Indian system and those operated by South Korea and China are independent,

(d) whether Indian Government have discussed this with the US and Japan; and

(e) if so, the outcome of the same?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) At present, only United States and Japanese Ship Reporting Systems are interlinked. Others, like Indian Ship Reporting System, can access other ship reporting systems the world over on an as required basis by using the established means of communication.

(d) and (e) The issue has been under discussion at the level of Coast Guard organisations of the respective countries.