

Grievances expressed by BSF jawans

695. SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry is taking steps to ensure good living conditions for troopers posted along the Line of Control, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Ministry is planning to take any steps to address the grievances expressed by BSF jawans, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the Ministry is planning to release a status report for the same, if so, the deadline for such report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI KIREN RIJIJU): (a) to (c) Border Security Force (BSF) is deployed at Line of Control under Operational control of Army. All concerted efforts are made for providing all possible welfare measures and improving living conditions for troops. A robust grievance redressal mechanism is already in operation at various levels in BSF.

The Ministry of Home Affairs have reiterated to the Forces to ensure that the officers during their visit to posts, may check on the aspects of living conditions, clothing, food and equipment and they may also take initiative to get free and frank feedback of the personnel. It has been advised that senior officers may also partake the food prepared for the jawans and endorse a note on the quality/quantity of the food in the inspection register. The Forces have also been advised to review their internal grievances redressal system and take proactive measures to redress the grievances.

Barbed-wire fencing along border areas of the country

†696. SHRI SANJAY SETH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of border-areas of the country where barbed wire fencing has been done due to security reasons;

(b) the names of important and sensitive areas from where a greater threat to India's security is perceived;

(c) whether most of the narcotics products pass into the country from these areas; and

(d) whether Government has any plan of doing barbed-wire fencing of all the sensitive border areas of the country?

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.