

Gaps in border fencing along borders

1160. SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken any effective steps to strengthen border protection and also to address the issue of gaps and vulnerability in border fencing along the India-Pakistan border;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the concrete steps that Government has taken to strengthen complete protection of the borders from intruders?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI NITYANAND RAI): (a) to (c) The Government of India has adopted a multi-pronged approach to strengthen border protection, which *inter-alia* includes strengthening of border infrastructure, multi-tiered deployment of border guarding forces along International Border/ Line of Control, construction of border fencing, improved technological surveillance, weapons and equipment for security forces, improved intelligence and operational coordination, conducting special operations based on vulnerability mapping, anti-tunneling exercise and pro-active action against intruders. Border Guarding Force regularly carry out vulnerability mapping along Indo-Pakistan border to plug vulnerable patches.

Condition of prisons

1161. SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government is aware that most of the prisons/jails across the country are overcrowded and not worth living in;

(b) if so, the present status of prisons/jails across the country;

(c) whether the Union Government has taken any steps and given directions to State Governments to release the prisoners who have completed most of their lives in Jails and have now become senior citizens; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?