RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO.*39

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 01ST DECEMBER, 2021/ AGRAHAYANA 10, 1943 (SAKA)

IMPACT OF ENHANCEMENT OF POWERS OF BSF

39 SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR MODI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the States in which the ‘arrest, search and seize’ powers of BSF has been enhanced by a recent notification of Ministry of Home Affairs;

(b) the Acts under which jurisdiction has been extended and the Acts under which jurisdiction has not been extended;

(c) the reason for enhancement in some States and reduction in the State of Gujarat; and

(d) how will it impact the State police jurisdiction?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRI NITYANAND RAI)

(a) to (d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.
STATEMENT REFERRED IN REPLY TO THE RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NUMBER 39 DATED 01ST DECEMBER 2021

(a) & (b): The notifications dated 11.10.2021 have extended the territorial jurisdiction of BSF under the Passport (Entry into India) Act 1920, The Passport Act, 1967 and Section-41(1), 47, 51(1), 52, 100, 131, 149, 150, 151 & 152 of Criminal Procedure Code 1973 in the States of Assam, Punjab & West Bengal.

(c): The extension in territorial jurisdiction of BSF in some States is aimed at empowering BSF to discharge its border guarding duties more effectively in the wake of use of technology like Dynamic Remotely Operated Navigation Equipment (Drones), Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAVs), etc. generally having long range, by anti-national forces for surveillance as well as for smuggling of arms, narcotics and fake Indian currency notes (FICN). It would also help in curbing the menace of cattle smuggling as smugglers take refuge in the interior areas outside the jurisdiction of BSF. A territorial limit of 50 kms has now been kept in the bordering States of Assam, Gujarat, Punjab, Rajasthan and West Bengal in the area of responsibility of BSF for the sake of uniformity in this regard.

(d): There is no impact on the jurisdiction of State police. Rather it would result in better and more effective control on trans-border crimes in conjunction and co-operation with State police.

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