

Sixteenth Loksabha

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Title: Need to reopen the ICP at Gitaldah, Coochbehar at Indo Bangladesh border.

SHRI PARTHA PRATIM RAY (COOCHBEHAR): Hon. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, thank you for giving me this opportunity to raise an important matter regarding re-opening of immigration check post at Gataldah, Coochbehar.

Under the Coochbehar District, there were two immigrations check posts, one at Changrabandha and the other at Gitaldah. After the order in 2002, Gitaldah ICP was closed. Since the closure of the ICP at Gitaldah, the safety and security of residents have been compromised and it has badly affected the local economy.

Gitaldah connects a town, Mogulhat in Bangladesh. Due to this route, two-way trade used to happen connecting the villages, and this border was used by at least 500 travellers every day. This has helped the local hotels, eateries and transport workers. But people from Dinhat division who want to go to Bangladesh, have to travel 200 kms to Changrabandha to cross the border which is a complete waste of time.

I, therefore, request the Government to consider this issue on an urgent basis and reopen the ICP at Gitaldah, Coochbehar at Indo-Bangladesh border. Thank you.