GOVERNMENT OF INDIA HOME AFFAIRS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1421 ANSWERED ON:28.11.2000 FARMERS LIVING IN INDO-PAK BORDER PUSP JAIN

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is difficult for farmers to work in their fields adjacent to Indo-Pak border;
- (b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to mitigate the problems of the people living adjacent to the international border;
- (c) whether the Government propose to compensate the said farmers; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO)

(a)&(b): Farmers in Punjab, who have their lands beyond the fencing on the Indo-Pak border have certain problems relating to cultivation in their fields. With a view to minimise the farmers` hardships on account of security fencing, Border Security Force authorities hold meetings with the representatives of farmers and the civil administration.

(c)&(d): As a special case, Government of India had earlier made an allocation of Rs.6.45 crores to mitigate the hardships faced by the farmers in Punjab whose lands lie across the fence in border areas.

An amount of Rs.6.40 crores during 2000-2001 has also been earmarked as Additional Central Assistance to Punjab for creation of infrastructural facilities in the border areas.