

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:244
ANSWERED ON:20.11.2001
INCLUSION OF SIKKIM IN NORTH EASTERN COUNCIL
BHIM PRASAD DAHAL

Will the Minister of DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there has been a demand for inclusion of Sikkim in the North-Eastern Council;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any Bill for inclusion of Sikkim in NEC has been introduced in Parliament;
- (d) if so, the details in this regard; and
- (e) the reasons for not getting the Bill passed from the Parliament?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF DISINVESTMENT AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (MR. K. N. SHOURIE)

(a) and (b) There has been a demand from the Government of Sikkim for the inclusion of Sikkim State in the North Eastern Council. The Council has also passed a resolution for the inclusion of Sikkim in the Council.

(c) to (e) The North Eastern Council (Amendment) Bill, 1998 was introduced in Rajya Sabha on 8/12/1998. The Bill proposes to include Sikkim in the Council. After reconsideration by Government notice for amendments were issued on 20.7.2001 and Statement of objects and reasons revised, on 3.8.2001.

The Bill has been referred to the Department related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Home Affairs by Rajya Sabha for examination and report on 9th August, 2001. The Committee has held several meetings and has examined the officers of the Ministry of Home Affairs, North Eastern Council, Planning Commission and Chief Secretaries of North Eastern States. The Committee has also examined some members of North-Eastern MPs' Forum.