

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:113
ANSWERED ON:13.07.2004
ASSAM ACCORD
Sonowal Shri Sarbananda

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the schemes undertaken by the Union Government towards clause-wise implementation of Assam Accord;
- (b) the details of action taken so far thereon;
- (c) whether the Government has been failing to implement to Accord, clause-wise within the fixed time frame;
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (e) the reasons for non-completion of fencing of Indo-Bangladesh border so far; and
- (f) the action taken for the constitutional safeguard of the Assam people promised through clause VI and VII of the Assam Accord?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI REGHUPATHY)

(a) to (f): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN PARTS (a) TO (f) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 113 FOR 13.07.04 BY SHRI SARBANANDA SONOWAL REGARDING ASSAM ACCORD.

(a) to (d): Action has been taken to implement the provisions of the Assam accord. A statement indicating status of clause-wise implementation of Assam accord is annexed. Implementation of some of the clauses of the Accord needs continuous monitoring. Central Government has been holding tripartite meetings with representatives of Government of Assam and All Assam Students Union (AASU) to review implementation of various clauses of Assam Accord. The last meeting was held on 14.02.03.

(e): The Government have sanctioned the erection of fencing and construction of roads in two phases along India-Bangladesh border. Phase-I has been completed. This includes fencing of 854 kms and 2605 kms of roads. Phase-II involves fencing of 2429 kms and 797 kms of roads. The entire work is expected to be completed by 2006. In order to expedite the completion, the work has been allocated to a number of agencies.

(f): Details of projects implemented and other economic development programmes undertaken in Assam in pursuance of clauses 6&7 of the Assam Accord are given in the enclosed Annexure. Two Tripartite Sub-Committees consisting representatives of the Government of India, Assam and AASU were constituted to examine the proposals under clauses 6 & 7 of the Assam Accord. While an interim report was submitted by the Tripartite Sub-Committee on clause 6, the same could not be processed further because Government of Assam is yet to finalise its stand on definition of Assamese people and modalities for reservation for Assamese people in elected bodies/state legislature. The Tripartite Sub-Committee, on clause 7 has held several meetings and ASSU had indicated that they would like to progress only identified projects/areas. The progress of action on these projects./ areas is reviewed in the tripartite meetings.

ANNEXURE

ASSAM ACCORD – STATUS OF CLAUSE-WISE IMPLEMENTATION

CLAUSE 5.1. TO 5.9 –FOREIGNERS ISSUE:

1. The Citizenship Act, 1955, Citizenship Rules, 1956 and the Foreigners (Tribunals) Order, 1964, were amended.
2. Eleven Tribunals under the Foreigners (Tribunals) Order 1964 have been created in Assam for identifying foreigners of 1966-71 streams.
3. Special Registration Officers have been appointed. Sanction was also accorded for the creation of 1280 additional posts under the Prevention of infiltration of Foreigners Scheme.

4. Sixteen Tribunals under the illegal Migrants (Determination by Tribunals) Act, 1983 have been created in Assam. 10,693 persons have been declared as illegal Migrants and 1526 illegal migrants have been physically expelled till 31.12.2003.

5. Illegal Migrants (Determination by Tribunals) Act 1983 was amended in 1988.

CLAUSE 6 & 7 – SAFEGUARDS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:

6. A cultural centre called the Srimanta Sankaradeva Kalashetra Complex was sanctioned at a cost of Rs. 18.85 crores under Assam Accord. The same was inaugurated by Hon'ble President of India in November 1998.

7. Sri Jyoti Chitran (Film) Studio at Guwahati has been modernized and inaugurated by the Chief Minister, Assam in April 1999.

8. Numaligarh Refinery was set up a cost of nearly Rs. 2,500 crores and inaugurated by the Prime Minister in July 1999.

9. Two Central Universities, one at Tejpur, and the other at Silchar, have been set up.

10. An IIT has been set up at Guwahati. The first convocation of IIT Guwahati took place in May 1999.

11. Kathalguri Power Project (60 MW) has been commissioned.

12. Various other economic development programmes have been undertaken in furtherance of PM's initiative of 1996 and Shillong Conference 2000.

CLAUSE 8 TO 14- OTHER ISSUES:

13. The power to issue citizenship certificates now vests only with the Central Government.

14. Border fencing of 149.44 Kms out of 152.3 Kms sanctioned has been completed on Assam-Bangladesh border. 176 Kms of border roads have been completed. Proposal to fence the remaining 71.5 Km of border with Bangladesh has also been approved by the Government.

15. Ex-gratia payment was made to the next of kin of persons killed in the course of the agitation.

16. Disciplinary cases against employees in connection with the agitation were reviewed.

17. In the matter of recruitment, orders were issued by the Central Government for relaxation in upper age limit upto a maximum of six years in the case of candidates who had ordinarily resided in the State of Assam during the period 1.1.1980 to 15.8.1985

18. NSA detenués detained in connection with agitation were released.