

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:715

ANSWERED ON:08.07.2009

CLAIM OF INDIAN TERRITORY BY NEPAL

Mahto Shri Baidyanath Prasad;Rawat Shri Ashok Kumar

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a certain portion of Indian territory adjoining Indo-Nepal border in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar has been claimed by Nepal;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government of Nepal has granted the Nepalese citizenship to the people of these areas;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI S.M. KRISHNA)

(a) & (b) Strip maps covering about ninety six percent of the India-Nepal boundary have been jointly finalised by the Joint Technical Committee (JTC) on Boundary Matters, and initialled. There are, however, differences of perception in some areas on the alignment of boundary between India and Nepal. Differences exist in areas such as Narsahi -Susta in Bihar and Kalapani in Uttarakhand. The shifting of course in Susta region of the Gandak river, the mid-stream of which formed the boundary under the Treaty of Sugauli of 1816, has resulted in claims by Nepal in this segment.

(c) to (e) Some Nepalese citizens are residing in these areas. Once jointly finalised strip maps are signed, a new institutional mechanism, India-Nepal Boundary Working Group (BWG), with mutually agreed terms of reference, is to commence work, which would include, inter alia, strip mapping and delineation of the India-Nepal boundary line in the remaining sectors.