GOVERNMENT OF INDIA HOME AFFAIRS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:83 ANSWERED ON:22.02.2011 SEPARATE MINISTRY FOR BORDER STATES Singh Shri Dushyant

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government has received any request from border States for setting up of a separate Ministry for development of strategically important border States;
- (b) if so, the response of the Union Government thereto;
- (c) whether the Government has any action plan for the development of border States;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS(SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN)

- (a) & (b): No Madam. There is already Department of Border management under the Ministry of Home Affairs.
- (c) to (e): Government of India has been implementing a Border Area Development Programme (BADP) through the State Governments as a part of a comprehensive approach to Border Management with the aim to provide balanced development of border areas through growth and improvement of infrastructure and promotion of a sense of security and well being among the border population. The programme is implemented in 366 identified border blocks of 96 border district of 17 States, viz. (Arunachal Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Punjab, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh, Uttrakhand & West Bengal), which constitute international land border with neighboring countries. All the developmental activities like creation of social infrastructure, link roads, employment generation, education, health, power, agriculture and allied sectors etc. are covered under BADP. Funds are provided to the States as 100% non-lapsable Central grant. Annual Plan allocation under BADP is Rs. 691 crore for the current financial year. Internal division of funds to States is being done on the basis of a formula approved by the Planning Commission. There is an institutional mechanism of periodic review and meetings for effective monitoring of BADP.