

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6740
ANSWERED ON:08.05.2013
BOUNDARY AGREEMENT WITH BANGLADESH
Ahmed Shri Sultan

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has approved a draft legislation to amend the Constitution to implement the Land Boundary Agreement between India and Bangladesh signed in 1974;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the modalities involved in the exchange of enclaves;
- (d) whether after the exchange of enclaves, the inhabitants of the areas under Indian control would get Indian citizenship and voting rights; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI PRENEET KAUR)

(a) to (e) During the State visit of the Prime Minister to Bangladesh in September 2011, a "Protocol to the Agreement between the Government of India and the Government of Bangladesh Concerning the Demarcation of the Land Boundary Between India and Bangladesh and Related Matters (LBA)" was signed. It settles the long outstanding land boundary issues related to undemarcated segment of 6.1 Kms; territories in adverse possession; and exchange of enclaves. The Cabinet has, on 13 February 2013, approved the draft of a Constitution (Amendment) Bill for implementing the India-Bangladesh Land Boundary Agreement (LBA) 1974 and the Protocol to LBA signed in 2011. The Protocol envisages that 111 Indian Enclaves in Bangladesh and 51 Bangladesh Enclaves in India, as per the jointly verified cadastral enclave maps, shall be exchanged.

As per Article 3 of the LBA 1974, when the Enclaves are transferred, people living in these areas shall be given the right of staying on where they are as nationals of the State to which the areas are transferred.