

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:442
ANSWERED ON:06.08.2013
. MEETING OF EASTERN ZONAL COUNCIL
Majhi Shri Pradeep Kumar

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has recently conducted any meeting of the Eastern Zonal Council comprising of West Bengal, Odisha, Jharkhand and Bihar;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the issues raised and suggestions made by various participant States during the said meeting; and
- (c) the action taken by the Government so far and the time by which such suggestions are likely to be implemented?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH)

(a) to (c): Yes, Madam. The 20th meeting of Eastern Zonal Council was convened on 17th April, 2013 at Kolkata. The issues discussed in the meeting were – Safety on National Highways, issues relating to Internal Security, Communal Harmony, Allotment of land to Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) for establishment of battalion camping sites, Matters related to police administration in the States, Implementation of Border Area Development Programme (BADP) in the States of Eastern Zone, Strengthening of vigilance establishments within States to deal with the corruption, problems/issues relating to Scheduled Castes & Scheduled Tribes in the States of the Eastern Zone. It was suggested that member States should give more importance on collection of local level intelligence collaboratively, to communicate the requirements of funds for BADP Scheme and to ensure that earmarked funds should be spent for the direct benefit to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

A number of above issues have been resolved in the aforesaid meeting. The Member-States in Eastern Zone and concerned Central Ministries have been requested to initiate follow-up action on other decisions taken by the Council.