

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1321

ANSWERED ON:18.07.2014

BORDER HAATS

Chaudhury Shri Jitendra;Pala Shri Vincent H

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of Border Haats presently functional along the Indian border, particularly in the North-Eastern States, location-wise;
- (b) the details of proposals for establishing such haats which have been sanctioned by the Government during the last three years and the current year locationwise;
- (c) the expenditure incurred by the Government on such haats along with revenue generated therefrom during the said period;
- (d) whether the Government has any proposal for establishing more Border Haats in the country;
- (e) if so, the details and the locations thereof indicating estimated expenditure to be incurred thereon; and
- (f) the contribution of such haats in boosting economy of the country?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) (SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

- (a) Two Border Haats in Meghalaya, at Kalaichar in West Garo Hills District and Balat East Khasi Hills district are functional at present.
- (b) In addition to the two functional border haats, during the last three years and the current year, Government of India and Government of the People's of Republic Bangladesh have approved four more Border Haats at Kamalasagar, Srinagar, Palbasti and Kamalpur in Tripura.
- (c) Till date, the total expenditure sanctioned so far on the construction of the Border Haats is Rs 4,67,60,000/- (Rupees four crores, sixty seven lakhs and sixty thousands only). As per the Memorandum of Understanding between The Government of The Republic of India and The Government of The People's Republic of Bangladesh, the commodities sold in the designated Border Haats are exempted from the payment of customs duties.
- (d) Yes.
- (e) The Government of India has shared a list of 22 locations in the State of Meghalaya with the Government of Bangladesh for their concurrence to establish Border Haats.
- (f) The Border Haats aim at promoting the wellbeing of the people dwelling in remote areas across the borders of two countries, by establishing traditional system of marketing the local produce through local markets.