

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1446
ANSWERED ON:02.12.2014
ENCROACHMENT ALONG BORDERS
Kumar Shri Shailesh (Bulo Mandal)

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there are reports of encroachments along the borders by foreign countries;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the measures taken by the Government to curb such encroachments and to raise the matter at the international fora?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI KIREN RIJU)

(a) & (b): There is no illegal occupation of territory by the foreign countries along the Indo-Bangladesh, Indo-Myanmar and Indo-Bhutan Borders, though in the case of Indo-Bangladesh border there have been pockets along the India-Bangladesh border that have traditionally been under the possession of people of one country in the territory of another country. These are known as "Adverse Possessions". The India-Nepal border is an open border which allows free movement of nationals of both the countries. However, Pakistan is in illegal and forcible occupation of approximately 78,000 sq. kms. of Indian territory in the State of Jammu & Kashmir since 1948. Under the so-called China-Pakistan "Boundary Agreement" of 1963, Pakistan illegally ceded 5,180 sq. kms. of Indian territory in Pakistan Occupied Kashmir to China. As regards the Indo-China Border, there is no commonly delineated Line of Actual Control (LAC) in the border areas between India and China. From time to time, on account of differences in the perception of the LAC, situations have arisen on the ground that could have been avoided had there been a common perception of the LAC.

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(c): As regards the Indo-Bangladesh Border 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 including the territories in adverse possession, among others. The Constitution (119th Amendment) Bill for implementing the Indo-Bangladesh Land Boundary Agreement (LBA) 1974 and its 2011 Protocol has been introduced in Rajya Sabha in December' 2013 and is currently under consideration of the Standing Committee of Parliament of External Affairs. As regards the Indo-Pakistan Border, under the Simla Agreement of 1972 India is committed to resolve all outstanding issues with Pakistan including the issues of Pakistan's forcible and illegal occupation of Jammu and Kashmir through a peaceful bilateral dialogue.

Government remains continually vigilant and is firm in its resolve to take all necessary steps to effectively safeguard India's security and territorial integrity. As regards the Indo-China Border Government regularly takes up any transgression along the LAC with the Chinese side through established mechanisms including border personnel meetings, flag meetings, meetings of Working Mechanism for Consultation & Coordination on India-China Border Affairs and diplomatic channels. The two sides agree that peace and tranquility on the border is the basis for the continued expansion of India-China relations. As regards the Indo-Nepal Border, the Government of India jointly with the Government of Nepal has undertaken the task of demarcation of the boundary in a scientific and technical manner through a Joint Technical Committee (JTC). This exercise has been completed for almost 98% of the India-Nepal boundary. The two sides have also agreed to establish a Boundary Working Group for the maintenance of border pillars in the identified sectors and to identify the India-Nepal boundary in the remaining sectors.