GOVERNMENT OF INDIA HOME AFFAIRS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1466 ANSWERED ON:02.12.2014 ASSISTANCE UNDER BADP Choudhary Col. (Retd) Sona Ram

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the financial assistance and guidelines administering Border Areas Development Programme (BADP) are finalized without consulting the concerned State Government;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the regions falling beyond ten kilometers of the international border are facing negligence in terms of development due to BADP guidelines;
- (d) if so, the details thereof particularly in the State of Rajasthan; and
- (e) the corrective measures proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): Government of India has been implementing the Border Area Development Programme (BADP) in the border blocks, through 17 State Governments having land borders with India's neighbouring countries. The objectives of BADP are to meet the special developmental needs of the people living in remote and inaccessible areas situated near the international land border and to saturate the border areas with basic essential infrastructure through the convergence of Central/State/local schemes with BADP.

Funds under the BADP are allocated by the Planning Commi-ssion of India annually, which are re-allocated to the Border States on the basis of (i) length of the interna-tional border (ii) population of border blocks and (iii) area of border blocks with 15% weightage to hilly, desert and Rann of Kutchh areas as stipulated in the Guidelines of the BADP, which have been framed by the Empowered Commi-ttee on the BADP in consultation with the State Governments.

(c) to (e): The BADP emphasized the focused socio-economic development of border areas which are under developed, inaccessible and closer to the borders. As per the guide- lines in vogue, the BADP funds will be first utilized for the development of villages located closer to the border 'within 0-10 km'. After saturating these villages with basic infrastructure, the next set of villages located within 0-15 km and 0-20 km would be taken up. If the first village in a block is located at a far away location from the international border, the first village/hamlet in the block may be taken as "0" km distance village for drawing the priority list.