

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:122
ANSWERED ON:08.07.2014
FARMING ALONG INTERNATIONAL BORDERS
Meghwal Shri Arjun Ram

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the farmers along the international borders of the country especially Western regions are facing great difficulties in farming in these areas;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to formulate a policy to promote farming along the international borders of the country;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to compensate these farmers when there is excessive shelling of ammunitions by enemy forces along the borders?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): Farmers while cultivating their lands along International Borders including ahead of Border Security Fence are not facing any major problem in the bordering areas including Western region. In Jammu Sector, cultivation is not possible in certain stretches due to barren & undulating ground and lack of irrigation facility. Also, due to volatile and tense situation along IB in Jammu Sector there is general reluctance on the part of villagers for farming ahead of Border Fence.

(c) & (d): Agriculture is a state subject. State Government formulate their respective State schemes for agriculture & allied sectors in accordance with their respective felt needs, agricultural potential, aspirations of people living there, agro-climatic condition etc. for implementing these schemes/activities in different regions/areas of their respective States. State Governments also decide to implement various centrally sponsored schemes in different parts of their respective States in a similar manner. It is, therefore, for the State Governments concerned to decide the extent to which farming along the international border adjoining a State is to be promoted.

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(e) The compensation to farmers due to excessive shelling of ammunitions by enemy forces along the border is decided on case to case basis by the State Government/Central Government. However, Central Government has granted ex-gratia payment of compensation to the people/farmers for the damages occurred to their crops etc. during the preparatory stage of defensive preparation/movement of Armed Forces in Border areas of the States of J&K, Punjab, Rajasthan and Gujarat.