

Title: Need to reserve Kench's Trace and Laplang areas in Shillong, Meghalaya as green belt.

SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH (SHILLONG): Recently, there has been a sense of extreme unease and concern among the people of Shillong, Capital of Meghalaya particularly in the Kench's Trace area and Laplang area caused by the sudden erection of boundary wall by the Army authorities. The fact of the matter is that these areas have been left unused for about 65 to 70 years and the people made use of these stretches of land as passages and pathways and for recreational activities. There is a great need for open space and greenery in Shillong which, of late, has lost much of its traditional greenery. In the interest of environment and water catchment, I request the Defence Ministry to use its good offices to reserve these areas as green belt and recreational parks. This will also result in increased harmonious relationship between the Army and civilian population besides being environment friendly.