GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. *267

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 21ST MARCH, 2017 / PHALGUNA 30, 1938 (SAKA)

FENCING ALONG GUJARAT BORDER

*267. SHRI C.R. PATIL:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware that out of the total 512 km. of land border of Gujarat with Pakistan, only 340 km. has been sanctioned for fencing and fencing work has been completed for only 262.7 km. and if so, the reasons therefor;
- (b) whether the remaining stretch of border area is very sensitive and requires urgent fencing and if so, the steps being taken to complete the fencing work expeditiously;
- (c) whether the Government has taken note of the incidents of smuggling of weapons/contrabands as well as infiltration of anti-nationals through the porous stretch of the said border and if so, the reaction of the Government thereto; and
- (d) the time by which the fencing of the entire stretch of 512 km. of Gujarat border is likely to be completed?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. *267 FOR 21.03.2017.

- (a) & (b): Out of total 508 km of border length along Indo-Pakistan border(IPB) in Gujarat, Government of India has sanctioned 340 km length of fence, out of which 280 km fence has been completed. The balance 168 km (508 km 340 km) stretch is to be covered through non-physical barrier i.e. technological solutions, as the site conditions were not found feasible for construction of fence due to marshy/water logged area.
- (c) No case of infiltration has been reported in Gujarat through IPB during the last three years. 44 cases of seizure of contraband items and one case each of seizure of arms and ammunition have been reported during the last three years. The Government has adopted a multipronged approach for security arrangements at the borders to curb smuggling and infiltration. The arrangements include deployment of Border Guarding Force (BGF), construction of border fence, construction of border roads, installation of floodlights, construction of Border Out Posts (BOPs), introduction of Hi-tech surveillance equipment's, providing advanced weapons and Specialized Vehicles to Security Forces, etc.

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(d) The remaining portions of Indo-Pakistan Border in Gujarat are proposed to be covered through technology solutions. Government of India has sanctioned a pilot project for deployment of technological solutions in different terrains, starting with Jammu. Based on the outcome of the said pilot project, further assessment regarding timelines etc. will be made.
