

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. †3412**

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 01ST JANUARY, 2019/ PAUSHA 11, 1940 (SAKA)

DEVELOPMENT OF BORDER AREAS

†3412. SHRI SUNIL JAKHAR:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the efforts being made for the development of border areas in the bordering States at the international borders;**
- (b) whether the Government proposes to provide any package for the development of border areas of Punjab adjoining Pakistan; and**
- (c) if so, the details of the efforts being made by the Government to stop the contact between drug smugglers and terrorist organisations and their contact with Pakistan in areas of Punjab at the border of Pakistan?**

ANSWER

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

(a): Government of India is implementing the Border Area Development Programme (BADP) as a major intervention to meet the special developmental needs and wellbeing of the people living in remote and inaccessible areas situated near the international border. The programme is supplemental in nature to augment the pace of development in the border areas along the international land border. For comprehensive development of border areas, sanction has also been given for development of 61 villages at estimated cost of Rs. 371 crores during the last two financial years i.e. 2016-17 and 2017-18. An amount of Rs. 126

crores was released to the border States for comprehensive development of these 61 villages in the country.

(b): At present, there is no proposal under consideration in the Government for providing developmental package to the border areas of Punjab adjoining Pakistan, under Border Area Development Programme (BADP).

(c): The following measures are being taken by Border Security Force (BSF) to guard the Indo-Pakistan Border:

(i) Vulnerability mapping of BOPs is being reviewed from time to time with a view to strengthen surveillance by deploying additional manpower, Special Surveillance equipment, vehicles and other force multipliers.

(ii) Effective domination of the borders by 24X7 surveillance viz, patrolling, laying nakas, manning observation posts all along the International Border.

(iii) Up-gradation of intelligence (INT) network and coordination with sister agencies.

(iv) Conduct of special operations along the border and in depth areas.

(v) Anti tunneling exercise is being conducted on regular basis in vulnerable areas.