GOVERNMENT OF INDIA Ministry OF FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY & DAIRYING DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY & DAIRYING LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4947 TO BE ANSWERED ON 23RD JULY, 2019

SMUGGLING OF COWS

4947. SHRI ARJUN SINGH:

Will the Minister of FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING

मत्स्यपालन, पशुपालन और डेयरी मंत्री be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has any details regarding smuggling of cows from West Bengal
- (b) if so, the details thereof:
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor: and
- (d) the number of States wherein the Union Government has taken strict steps to check smuggling of cows during the last three years and the current year?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY & DAIRYING (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN)

(a) to (c) As per the information received from Ministry of Home Affairs, details of Cattle smuggled from West Bengal and seized by Border Security Force and Sashastra Seema Ball(SSB) during the last 03 years i.e. 01/01/2016 to 31/12/2018 and upto 31 May 2019 are as under:-

Year	2016	2017	2018	2019 (upto 30 th June, 2019)
Details of cattle seized from Indo-Bangladesh Border (by BSF)	1,28,440	87,378	51,592	23,208
Details of cattle seized from Indo- Nepal Border (by SSB)	1521	860	650	661
Details of cattle seized from Indo-Bhutan Border (by SSB)	260	127	42	0

As per the information provided by Anti smuggling unit, Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs, Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance the no. of cases booked and no. of cattle seized by customs from West Bengal is as under:

Year	No. of cases booked	No. of cattles seized
2016-17	50	395
2017-18	68	432
2018-19	08	40
2019-20 (upto June, 2019)	Nil	Nil

(d) The most affected areas for cattle smuggling is North 24 Paraganas, Murshidabad, Malda, Nadia and Dakshin Dinajpur in West Bengal and Dhubri in Assam. The Ministry of Home Affairs, in pursuance to the direction given by the Hon'ble Supreme Court on 12/07/2016, in WP (Civil) No 210 of 2015, constituted a Committee. This Committee recommended various actions to be taken by various State stakeholders viz State Government and Central Ministries. The recommendation of the Committee, on acceptance by Hon'ble Supreme Court, was sent to all concerned to take action accordingly on 23/11/2017. The Central Government is regularly monitoring the implementation of the recommendations of the Committee.

Further, following steps are being taken by the Border Guarding Forces to prevent cattle smuggling along Indo-Bangladesh, Indo-Nepal and Indo-Bhutan Border:-

- (i) Effective domination of the borders by carrying out round the clock, patrolling, laying of nakas, manning observation posts all along the International Border and strengthening of existing defences of the Border Out Posts (BOPs).
- (ii) Vulnerability mapping of BOPs and area of responsibility is being regularly done and accordingly, sensitive BOPs are being strengthened by deploying additional manpower, special surveillance equipment and other force multipliers.
- (iii) Erection of border fence on the International border.
- (iv) Installation of Border Flood Lights along border security fence.
- (v) Use of water crafts/boats and floating BOPs for domination of riverine area of International border.
- (vi) Simultaneous Co-ordinate Patrolling (SCP) is being conducted with Border Guard Bangladesh along Indo-Bangladesh Border.
- (vii) Conduct of special operations along the border and in depth areas.
- (viii) Strengthening of intelligence network and coordination with other agencies.
