GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2340

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 03RD AUGUST, 2021/ SRAVANA 12, 1943 (SAKA)

CATTLE SMUGGLING

2340. DR. SUKANTA MAJUMDAR: DR. JAYANTA KUMAR ROY: SHRI BHOLA SINGH: SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO: SHRI RAJA AMARESHWARA NAIK: SHRI VINOD KUMAR SONKAR:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of cases of cattle smuggling along the Indo-Bangladesh border that came to light, cattle seized and smugglers arrested during each of the last two years;
- (b) the remedial steps taken to check illegal trade of cattle operated in cattle markets/haats along the Indo-Bangladesh border;
- (c) the length in kilometres of fencing of Indo-Bangladesh border which has been completed so far, State-wise;
- (d) the length in kilometres of the border yet to be fenced along the reverine section of the borders along with the target time for completion;
- (e) the number of illegal migrants who have crossed over to India during the last two years;
- (f) whether there have been reports of involvement of Border Security Force personnel in illegal movement of people and animals along Indo-Bangladesh Border;
- (g) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government thereon; and
- (h) the other steps being taken in this regard?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

(SHRI NISITH PRAMANIK)

(a): Details of cattle seized and smugglers arrested on Indo-Bangladesh

border during last two years are as under:

Year	2019	2020
Total number of cattle seized	77,410	46809
Apprehension of Smugglers	703	460

(b): The Government of India has adopted a multi-pronged approach to check illegal trade of cattle along Indo-Bangladesh border which inter-alia includes round the clock surveillance and patrolling on the borders and establishment of observation post; increase in number of BSF personnel; construction of border fencing & floodlighting; use of water crafts/boats and floating Border Out Posts (BOP) for domination of riverine area; deployment of advance technological equipments like Hand Held Thermal Imager (HHTI), Night vision Device (NVD), Twin Telescope, Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAV); upgradation of intelligence setup and enhanced coordination with the State Governments/concerned intelligence agencies. (c) and (d): About 76% Indo-Bangladesh border has been covered by fence.

Details of state-wise fencing along Indo Bangladesh border are as under:

(Length	in	Km)
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State	Total length of	International Border
	International Border	covered by Fence
West Bengal	2216.70	1638
Assam	263.00	210
Meghalaya	443.00	326
Mizoram	318.00	155
Tripura	856.00	812
Total	4096.7	3141

The balance length of International border will be covered by physical fencing and technological solutions in the form of Comprehensive Integrated Border Management System (CIBMS).

The riverine border which is not feasible for fencing will be covered through technological solutions. A pilot project in Dhubri, Assam along 61 Kms riverine border has been implemented. The Government is regularly monitoring the progress of work. (e): Border Security Force conducts regular patrolling, lay nakas, establish observation posts and carry out anti-tunneling exercise to stop illegal migrants. However, some illegal migrants are able to enter in a clandestine and surreptious manner, mainly due to difficult riverine terrain in parts of International border with Bangladesh which are not amenable to physical fencing. The details of foreigners who were apprehended along Indo-Bangladesh Border while attempting to infiltrate during last 2 years are as under:-

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Year	2019	2020
Total	1109	955

(f) to (h): Whenever the involvement of a BSF personnel comes to light for illegal movement of people and cattle smuggling along Indo-Bangladesh border, BSF carries out investigation and appropriate disciplinary action is taken as per the rules. Since 2019, disciplinary action against 28 BSF personnel was initiated, out of which 22 personnel have been punished and disciplinary action is in process for 6 personnel.