

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2848**

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 10TH MARCH, 2026/ PHALGUNA 19, 1947 (SAKA)

SPECIAL ASSISTANCE TO KANDI AND BORDER AREAS OF PUNJAB

2848. DR. RAJ KUMAR CHABBEWAL:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that the Kandi and border areas of Punjab face similar geographical disadvantages to Jammu & Kashmir and North-Eastern States, including difficult terrain, lack of irrigation facilities, frequent security concerns due to international border proximity, backwardness in infrastructure and employment opportunities and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Government has received any representation from the Government of Punjab or public representatives seeking special category status or a special development package for the Kandi and border belt of Punjab on the lines of assistance extended to Jammu & Kashmir and North-Eastern States;

(c) if so, the details thereof along with the action taken thereon;

(d) whether the Government proposes to introduce a dedicated Central package, special industrial incentives, enhanced border area development funds, and infrastructure projects for the Kandi and border areas of Punjab; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRI NITYANAND RAI)**

(a) to (e): Under Border Area Development Programme 2355 works of estimated cost Rs. 230.9 crore have been completed in the State of Punjab.

Rs.189.06 crore have been released to State Govt. of Punjab since the FY 2014-15 under BADP. Further, BADP is in its sunset phase and no new projects are being approved under the programme.

Central Government has approved the Vibrant Villages Programme-II (VVP-II), as a Central Sector Scheme, with a total outlay of ₹6839 crores till the Financial Year 2028-29 for comprehensive development of identified villages located in blocks abutting international land borders (ILBs), other than the Northern Border already covered under VVP-I, in the States/UTs of Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Gujarat, J&K, Ladakh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Punjab, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Tripura, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal.

Further, no representation has been received regarding seeking special category status or a special development package for Kandi and border belt of Punjab on the lines of assistance extended to Jammu & Kashmir and North Eastern States.
