

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1597
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 5TH FEBRUARY, 2014/MAGHA 16, 1935 (SAKA)

DECISION TO REPLACE ASSAM RIFLES WITH BSF AT INDIA-MYANMAR BORDER

1597. SHRIMATI WANSUK SYIEM:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether considering Myanmar as a friendly neighbour, India has decided to replace The Assam Rifles, under the control of the Indian Army presently manning 70-80 km stretch of the border with Myanmar, with Border Security Force (BSF);

(b) whether India and Myanmar share an unfenced 1643 km border and permit free movement up to 16 kms across border, making it extremely porous;

(c) whether due to tough terrain, the BSF has proposed to air-maintain the border with a fleet of M-17 choppers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRI R.P.N. SINGH)

(a): The proposal to replace Assam Rifles with Border Security Force for guarding of the Indo Myanmar Border has not been finalized.

(b): Out of the total length of 1643 Kms of Indo-Myanmar Border, presently only 3 Kms is fenced. A Free Movement Regime on both sides of the border for upto 16 Kms is in place, which is, however, restricted to three points, namely Pangsou, Moreh and Zwkhatthar in the States of Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur and Mizoram respectively. An additional point in Nagaland is proposed to be established in due course.

(c) & (d) : BSF has submitted a proposal to air maintain the Border Out Posts with a fleet of MI-17 V5 helicopters and ALH Dhruv/Cheetah helicopters.
