

Regarding issues pertaining to Myanmar border areas

SHRI S. SUPONGMEREN JAMIR (NAGALAND): Sir, I want to remind the House of the forgotten volunteers, the village guards who were recognised by the External Affairs Ministry on 1st March, 1957. At present, they are there to guard against invaders and intruders. They are guarding 120 villages that fall on the Indo-Myanmar border, covering six districts, including Mon, Tuensang, Kiphire, Meluri, Noklak and Longleng. They are still neglected by the State Government as well as by the Minister of the Home Affairs as they are getting salary of only Rs. 3,000 per month, Rs. 100 for clothing allowances annually, and Rs. 60 per month for the rations. So, I would like to request the hon. Minister, through you, Sir, to look into the matter.

Secondly, regarding the Act East Policy, these village guards are guarding the International Trade Centres in the border areas. So, instead of making the boundary, which will have restriction of free movement within 10 kms, a village guard should be deployed with full facilities. So, I would request the hon. Minister not to construct the international boundary. Thank you, Sir.