

Title: Need to look into the problems being faced by people living in border area of Assam due to barbed wire fencing.

SHRI NEPAL CHANDRA DAS (KARIMGANJ): The Government has erected barbed wire fencing on the border facing Bangladesh and Assam. This barbed wire fencing has been provided deep inside the Indian territory with the result that a large number of Indian people are still living outside the fencing but well inside the border. They have cultivable lands on both sides of the fencing. Similarly, a good number of Indian people are living inside the barbed wire fencing but have agricultural land on the other side of the fencing right up to the border.

These Indian citizens living on both sides of the barbed wire fencing have to cross the fencing through check posts to reach their respective fields for cultivation. In the process, they face hardships in crossing the fencing through check posts. These people have been provided passage through the check-posts during limited prescribed hours only which are most unsuitable for cultivation of their lands. The cultivation time starts in the morning at 5-6 a.m., but the BSF personnel do not allow these people to cross fencing at that time.

I request the Government that the Indian population living on both sides of the barbed wire fencing inside the border be issued Identity Cards and they be allowed entry at any time through check-posts particularly from sun rise to sun set to reach their respective fields and homes.

I also draw the attention of the Government that due to construction of barbed wire fencing and border road, a number of families have been displaced but till today, these families have not been rehabilitated and they have been living on either sides by making temporary houses. Government should take immediate steps for their rehabilitation.