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Title: Recent intrusions by Bangladesh Rifles in Barak Valley, Assam.

DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA (LAKHIMPUR): I would like to draw the attention of the Government, through you, Sir, to the recent attempt of Bangladesh to grab Indian land in the Indo-Bangladesh border in the Cachar and Karimganj districts of Assam and also part of Tripura.

The BSF has foiled several organised attempts of Bangladeshis to cultivate Indian lands in recent times. The hon. Defence Minister has admitted in this House that more than 499 acres of Indian land in this border area are in the occupation of Bangladesh[V10].

13.00 hrs.

The situation has become more tense after the intrusion attempt on last Wednesday, by the Bangladesh Rifles who attacked the outposts of the Border Security Force at Harinagar-Kinnarkal in Cachar district and Tugergram in Karimganj district with mortars. In this incident two women were killed and 3000 villagers fled their homes following exchanges of fire between the border guards of the two countries. The women Sabita Dey and Santa Dey died when their homes at Harinagar Part IV village was hit by mortars fired by the Bangladesh Rifles, which had recently amassed troops along the border. The BSF retaliated and firing between the border guards of the two countries continued in the Cachar-Karimganj sector till yesterday morning. The administrations of Cachar and Karimganj districts have opened a relief camp for the villagers at Siddheswar High School.

In view of the high-voltage situation, BSF has sounded a red alert in the entire Banga border areas along with Katigorah and Karimganj sectors. A large number of families of Banga border areas have been asked to vacate their houses. This is a very serious issue.

MR. SPEAKER: That is why I have allowed you to raise it in the House.

DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA : Through you, Sir, I demand a statement from the hon. Defence Minister on what has happened and what the Government is planning to do to secure our border, to totally seal the Indo-Bangladesh border which is always being attacked by the Bangladesh for their advantage....(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: No, I am sorry.

SHRI LALIT MOHAN SUKLABAIIDYA (KARIMGANJ): Sir, firstly, I associate myself with what Dr. Sarma has said just now. Through you, I would like to draw the attention of the Central Government....(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: From tomorrow onwards Members should tell me what I should do and I will do only that. All of you give me a joint list and I will follow it. I would not have to apply my mind over it.

SHRI LALIT MOHAN SUKLABAIIDYA : I would request the Government of India to tackle the situation permanently because these are not isolated incidents. BDR is frequently firing on the peace-loving people living in the border areas of my constituency, Barak Valley. These people have been uprooted by the BDR firing. They frequently fire upon our people to protect cultivation of Indian soil by Bangladeshi cultivators. The previous Member has already told about two persons being killed and many other injured in this firing. People have taken refuge in schools. The Government declared to seal the border but progress of barbed wire fencing is very slow. Old fencing are rusted and making way for miscreants.