

Title: Need to mitigate the problems of villagers residing along border in Balurghat Parliamentary Constituency, West Bengal-laidl.

SHRI PRASANTA KUMAR MAJUMDAR (BALURGHAT): My constituency Balurghat in West Bengal is almost surrounded by Indo-Bangladesh border. Due to international law, the Central Government has built up Border fencing 150 yards away from Zero Point. Even now some Border villages are situated between Zero Point and Border fencing line. The students, labourers, cultivators, employees and also relatives of that villages cannot enter their own villages in the evening because Section 144 of IPC is promulgated along the border area. Similarly, the people of the border villages cannot come from their villages from evening to morning even they cannot go to hospital. More over border villagers cannot avail Government facility such as rural electricity, drinking water and health facilities. Border gates are not timely opened. Peasants face difficulties in cultivating their lands.

I would request the Hon'ble Home Minister to ensure that there are sufficient gates at the border area, gates are opened in time, border villages are allowed to avail Government facilities and villagers may be allowed to take photo copy of identity cards across the border gate so that the original identity card is not damaged due to daily wear and tear besides allowing the cultivators to produce jute.