

GOVT. TO BOOST FACILITIES ALONG CHINA BORDER

Relevant for: Security Related Matters | Topic: Security challenges and their management in Border Areas

The BADP, which was started in 1980 for the western border, has over the years expanded to cover 396 blocks of 111 border districts in 16 States and two UTs.

The new BADP guidelines said, “10% of the total allocated funds will be additionally allocated to the States/UTs abutting Indo-China border [Arunachal Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Ladakh, Sikkim and Uttarakhand] for taking up works/projects in the districts abutting Indo-China border.”

It said that 10% funds would be reserved as an incentive for the better performing States. Out of the remaining Rs. 638.2 crores, the northeastern States — Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Tripura and Sikkim — would get Rs. 255.28 crore, or 40% of the remaining 80% funds. Around Rs. 382.9 crore, or 60%, would be allocated to Bihar, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, West Bengal and the Union Territories of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh, the guidelines said.

Forces such as the Border Security Force (BSF), deployed along the Bangladesh and Pakistan borders; the Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) on the China border; the Sashastra Seema Bal along the Nepal border; and the Assam Rifles stationed along the Myanmar border would provide independent feedback on the projects in the blocks concerned and may be tasked to conduct social audit of the works, it stated.

No NGO or private institution could be hired for infrastructure related work, the guidelines said.

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