

VII. MANAGEMENT OF INDO-BHUTAN BORDER

India shares a 699 Km long border with Bhutan along Sikkim, West Bengal, Assam and Arunachal Pradesh. The State-wise length of the borders is as under:-

(Length in Km)	
State	Total length
Sikkim	32
West Bengal	183
Assam	267
Arunachal Pradesh	217
Total:	699

DEPLOYMENT OF BORDER GUARDING FORCE

To improve the security environment along this border, 12 battalion of **Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB)** have been deployed as the Border Guarding Force on this border. Out of a total 132 sanctioned BOPs, 131 BOPs have been established on Indo-Bhutan border so far. State-wise details of BOPs established are as under:-

State	No.of BOPs established	No.of BOPs to be established
Sikkim	4	1
West Bengal	39	-
Assam	64	-
Arunachal Pradesh	24	-
Total:	131	1

INDO-BHUTAN GROUP ON BORDER MANAGEMENT AND SECURITY

A Bilateral mechanism in the shape of an India-Bhutan Group on Border Management and Security has been regularly meeting. This mechanism has proved to be very useful in assessing threat perception to the two countries from groups attempting to take advantage of this open border and in discussing ways of improving the security environment in border areas.