

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3841

ANSWERED ON:13.12.2000

INDO-SINO BORDER TALKS

GOWDAR MALLIKARJUNAPPA;RAMSHETH THAKUR;SRIKANTA DATTA NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR;Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India and China have concluded the latest round of border talks after both sides exchanged maps for the first time of the middle sector of the disputed border in November 2000;
- (b) if so, whether both the Government have examined the exchanged maps;
- (c) if so, the main areas of dispute shown in the maps;
- (d) the extent to which these maps have been thoroughly examined by India;
- (e) the total area shown as disputed area;
- (f) the reaction of the Union Government thereto and the time by which a final settlement is likely to be reached in this regard; and
- (g) the details of other issues also discussed and the outcome thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA)

- (a): Yes, Sir. The Eighth Meeting of the India-China Expert Group of Diplomatic and Military Officials was held in Beijing on November 13-14, 2000. The two sides exchanged maps of the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in the Middle Sector.
- (b) - (f): The next step will be to compare the two maps of the LAC in the Middle Sector with a view to identifying differences in the respective perceptions of the LAC.
- (g): The two sides also discussed issues related to the implementation of the 1993 and 1996 Agreements on maintenance of peace and tranquillity along the LAC in the India-China border areas, and, confidence building measures, as well as other issues of mutual interest.