

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2564
ANSWERED ON:04.12.2002
INDO-JAPAN TIES
IQBAL AHMED SARADGI

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India and Japan have agreed to broaden their areas of cooperation in economic and other fields;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether our Prime Minister had met the Japanese Prime Minister during his visit to New York this year;
- (d) if so, whether any delegation from Japan had visited the country to implement the decisions taken by the two Prime Ministers; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH)

(a) Yes.

(b) During Prime Minister's visit to Japan in December, 2001, it had been agreed to hold a regular exchange of views at high levels to facilitate the cross sectoral dialogue on bilateral, regional and international issues. Deepened economic relations are seen as an essential underpinning to strengthen the bilateral relationship. Information and communication technology are areas where there are extraordinary strong complementarities between the two countries. The comprehensive security dialogue as well as Military-to-Military consultations are to be held annually and a dialogue on counter terrorism included in the former. Prior to Prime Minister's visit, Japan had, in October 2001, unilaterally lifted the 'economic measures' imposed on India in May, 1998. It was also agreed to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of India-Japan diplomatic relations.

(c) Yes.

(d) & (e) The Japanese delegations that visited India since December 2001, inter alia, include the following:

(i) Three delegations in March, September and October 2002 to study and review economic co-operation between the two countries. Fresh project proposals for Japanese assistance for development projects have been posed by Ministry of Finance.

(ii) Two Missions in March and September-October 2002 in connection with the Japanese offer of assistance for projects to clean the Ganga River. A Scope of Work for study on Water Quality Management Plan for Ganga River was signed. &

(iii) Former Japanese Prime Minister Yoshiro Mori in October 2002 as Special Envoy of Prime Minister Koizumi.