

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:579

ANSWERED ON:20.02.2003

AGREEMENT WITH RUSSIA FOR ASSISTANCE

ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY;BASUDEB ACHARIA;CHANDRESH PATEL KORDIA;JAI PRAKASH;PRIYA RANJAN
DASMUNSI;SHYAMA SINGH

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether he has recently visited Russia and held discussions with various leaders there; and

(b) if so, the details of discussions held and outcome thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES)

(a) & (b): Raksha Mantri visited Russia to co-Chair the Third meeting of the Indo-Russian Inter Governmental Commission for Military Technical Cooperation held in Moscow from January 15-17, 2003. During this visit he held discussions on a wide range of international and regional issues of mutual interest with the Russian Foreign Minister and the Russian Defence Minister. During these discussions both sides re-affirmed and reinforced their commitment to the ongoing Indo-Russian Strategic relationship based on a convergence of views in relation to current international issues, including the problem of terrorism.