GOVERNMENT OF INDIA EXTERNAL AFFAIRS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:621 ANSWERED ON:26.07.2000 INDO-SINO TIES DINESH CHANDRA YADAV;MADHAVRAO SCINDIA;RAM JEEVAN SINGH;RENUKA CHOWDHURY

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a high-powered delegation to China accompanying President signed MoUs and bilateral agreements for improving Indo-Sino bilateral, cultural, and trade relations;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) Whether any decisions for resolving the Indo-Sino boundary dispute were also taken, indicating the headway so far made in this direction since talks in this regard were resumed?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

(AJIT KUMAR PANJA)

(a) & (b): The President paid a State-visit to China on May 28-June 3, 2000. His talks with the Chinese President covered bilateral, regional and international issues of mutual interest. The two sides agreed to further enhance bilateral co-operation in diverse fields and to promote greater people-to-people contacts. No MOU/Agreement was signed during the visit.

(c): The boundary question is being discussed in the framework of the India-China Joint Working Group on the Boundary Question. Both sides have reiterated their commitment to seeking a fair, reasonable and mutually acceptable settlement of the boundary question by peaceful means through dialogue. The Agreement on Maintenance of Peace and Tranquillity, along the Line of Actual Control in the India-China Border Areas (1993) and the Agreement on Confidence Building Measures in the Military Field, along the Line of Actual Control in the India-China Border Areas (1996), provide an institutional framework for the maintenance of peace and tranquillity in the India-China border areas.