

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1930
ANSWERED ON:21.07.2004
TRILATERAL AXIS AMONG INDIA, JAPAN AND CHINA
Rao Shri Sambasiva Rayapati

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is a proposal to have strategic trilateral axis involving India, Japan and China;
- (b) if so, the salient features of the said proposal;
- (c) whether any discussions on it have been held between India and Japan;
- (d) if so, whether any concrete proposals in this regard have been worked out;
- (e) whether China has also shown interest to join it; and
- (f) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government in this direction?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED)

(a): No.

(b): Does not arise.

(c) to (f): Ideas of trilateral dialogue involving India, Japan and China have been discussed recently in some quarters. There has been some preliminary discussion on this matter with the Japanese side. The Government of India is committed to exploring avenues for enhanced cooperation in Asia with all major partners, including China and Japan.