

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:664

ANSWERED ON:21.11.2007

BORDER DISPUTE BETWEEN INDIA AND CHINA

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Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the present status of Indo-China border dispute and the progress made to settle the said dispute so far;
- (b) whether the Working Group constituted to settle the border dispute is feeling inability to function;
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor and the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (d) whether China had staked claim on some parts of Arunachal Pradesh and Himachal Pradesh during the visit of External Affairs Minister to China;
- (e) if so, the details thereof;
- (f) the reaction of the Government thereto; and
- (g) the action plan of the Government to resolve the dispute?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE)

(a)–(c) China is in occupation of approximately 38,000 sq. kms of Indian territory in Jammu and Kashmir. In addition, under the so-called China-Pakistan "Boundary Agreement" of 1963, Pakistan illegally ceded 5,180 sq. kms. of Indian territory in Pakistan Occupied Kashmir to China. China illegally claims approximately 90,000 sq. kms. of Indian territory in Arunachal Pradesh and about 2000 sq. kms. in the Middle Sector of the India-China boundary.

During the visit of former PM Vajpayee to China from 22-27 June 2003, the two sides agreed to each appoint a Special Representative to explore from the political perspective of the overall bilateral relationship the framework for a boundary settlement. There have been eleven meetings of the Special Representatives so far. The eleventh round of Special Representatives Talks was held in Beijing from 24 to 26 September 2007. Both sides held useful and positive discussions on the framework for the settlement of the India-China boundary question.

(d)–(f) No. Do not arise.

(g) Government are committed to resolving outstanding differences on the boundary question, through peaceful means and in a fair, reasonable and mutually acceptable manner.