GOVERNMENT OF INDIA EXTERNAL AFFAIRS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2451 ANSWERED ON:22.07.2009 CHINESE PRESSURE ON ADB Meinya Dr. Thokchom

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether China has pressurized the Asian Development Bank (ADB) not to sanction a loan to India for a project in Arunachal Pradesh:
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (d) whether the Government has taken up the matter with other stakeholders of the Bank; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the outcome thereto?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS(SMT. PRENEET KAUR)

- (a) to (e) China did not endorse the Country Partnership Strategy (CPS) 2009-12 for India in the Board of the Asian Development Bank (ADB) on the ground that the proposed India CPS involved technical assistance funding for the Flood and River Erosion Management Project in Arunachal Pradesh which China claims is its territory. Government has clearly conveyed to the Chinese side that Arunachal Pradesh is an integral part of India. Government has also told the ADB and all member countries of the ADB which have Executive Directors on its Board, including the US, Japan, Australia, Canada, Indonesia, Republic of Korea, Malaysia, Philippines, Germany and Italy that
- (i) the CPS is not a political document and it does not make any judgment as to the legal or other status of any territories; and
- (ii) China's objection on political grounds is a clear violation of the ADB's Charter which prohibits the Bank from evaluating any proposal on grounds other that economic.

India's CPS was discussed in the Meeting of the Board of Executive Directors of the ADB on 15 June 2009, and all member countries except China supported the document.