GOVERNMENT OF INDIA EXTERNAL AFFAIRS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4730 ANSWERED ON:08.12.2010 INDO BANGLA TALKS ON DISPUTED ISSUES Gowda Shri D.B. Chandre;Jeyadural Shri S. R.

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India and Bangladesh have agreed to hold talks to settle their disputes including border issue;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the details of projects in Bangladesh which India has agreed to build or complete?

Answer

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

- (a) & (b) To address the outstanding land boundary issues between India and Bangladesh, including the three undemarcated segments, exchange of enclaves and adverse possessions, the two sides have set up a Joint Boundary Working Group (JBWG) in 2001. During the visit of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina of Bangladesh to India in January 2010, both sides agreed to address outstanding land boundary issues and agreed to convene the next meeting of the JBWG Accordingly the JBWG met in November 2010 and discussed land boundary issues.
- (c) India has taken up the construction of 2,800 Core Shelters for those affected in Bangladesh by cyclone 'Sidre'. India has also constructed the Kalabhawan for Department of Music and Theatre for University of Dhaka. During the visit of PM Sheikh Hasina of Bangladesh in January 2010, India has extended a Line of Credit of US \$ 1 billion for Bangladesh. An agreement to this effect was signed between Government of Bangladesh and EXIM Bank of India in August 2010. The Line of Credit will assist in the execution of a number of infrastructure-related projects in Bangladesh.