

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:281  
ANSWERED ON:14.12.2011  
TALKS BETWEEN CHINA AND INDIA  
Sugumar Shri K. ;Tewari Shri Manish

**Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the 15th round of talks between the Special Representatives (SR) of India and China scheduled to begin on 28 November, 2011 were postponed at the last minute;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor alongwith the agenda for the said talks;
- (c) whether China wanted India to prevent His Holiness the Dalai Lama from addressing a Buddhist convention organized by Ashoka Mission and if so the details thereof;
- (d) whether India refused to concede to the above demand and if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the said talks have been rescheduled; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI S.M. KRISHNA)

(a) to (f) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (A) TO (F) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 281 REGARDING "TALKS BETWEEN CHINA AND INDIA" FOR ANSWER ON 14.12.2011

India and China were exploring the possibility of scheduling the 15th round of Special Representatives (SR) Talks in New Delhi on various sets of dates in November 2011, one of them being 28-29 November 2011. On learning that the Global Buddhist Congregation (GBC) was being organised in Delhi from 27-30 November 2011, where His Holiness the Dalai Lama (HHDL) would be one of the speakers, the Chinese side expressed concern about HHDL being in Delhi at the same time as their SR. They suggested that Government either prevent HHDL from attending the GBC or cancel it completely. It was conveyed to the Chinese side that Government would not interfere in the GBC which was a religious convention and not an official event. Reiterating its commitment to the SR Talks mechanism, Government assured the Chinese side that a private religious event such as the GBC would not have any impact on Government-to-Government interaction and exchanges. However, the Chinese side expressed the inability of the Chinese SR to be present in New Delhi at the same time as HHDL. It was decided that the two sides would continue exploring an early, mutually convenient date for holding the 15th round of the SR Talks.