

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1692

ANSWERED ON:16.12.2013

COMMANDERS FLAG MEETINGS

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Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the Indian Army Commanders' Flag meetings with neighbouring countries during each of the last three years and the current year, country-wise;
- (b) the details of the outcome of these meetings, country-wise;
- (c) whether any working mechanism has been set up to ensure tranquility on the border; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof, country-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY)

(a) The details of Flag meetings held by Commanders of Indian Army with Pakistan Army along the Line of Control in J&K are as under:-

- (i) 2010 - 17
- (ii) 2011 - 09
- (iii) 2012 - 07
- (iv) 2013 - 08
(till date)

The details of Flag meetings held by Commanders of Indian Army with People Liberation Army of China along the LAC are as under:-

- (i) 2010 - 32
- (ii) 2011 - 34
- (iii) 2012 - 24
- (iv) 2013 - 34
(till date)

No Flag meetings are held with other neighbouring countries by Commanders of Indian Army.

(b) Flag meetings with Pakistani side have been effective in resolving local level issues along the Line of Control, such as ceasefire violations, construction activities, infiltration attempts and return of inadvertent crossers. The mechanism assists in maintaining peace and tranquility along LoC.

Flag meetings with Chinese side assist in maintaining peace and tranquillity along LAC.

(c) & (d): The established mechanisms of hotline messages, flag meetings as well as weekly talks between the DGsMO of India and Pakistan are used to ensure tranquility on the LoC.

The established mechanism of flag meetings and border personnel meetings are used to ensure tranquility on the border with China. In addition, a Working Mechanism on Consultation and Coordination (WMCC) on India-China Border Affairs has been put into place since 2012. Four meetings of WMCC have been held so far.