

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1515
ANSWERED ON:04.03.2015
CHINESE STUDY CENTRES ALONG BORDER
Mohammed Shri Faizal P.P.

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the increasing number of Chinese study centres along the India, Nepal and Bhutan border and if so, the facts and details thereof;
- (b) the details of activities with which these centres are involved; and
- (c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to keep a check on these centres in the interest of the country?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS [GEN. (DR) V. K. SINGH (RETD)]

(a) & (b) There is no report to indicate establishment of Chinese study centres in Bhutan.

Government is aware of the presence of China Study Centres in Nepal. As of now, there are reportedly 26 such Centres spread all over Nepal, including in the Terai region. Their stated objective is to strengthen Nepal-China friendship and to enhance cultural & educational interactions between the two countries. No instance of their involvement in anti-India activities has come to notice so far.

(c) India-Bhutan consultations on border management and security, including annual MHA level dialogue and Border District Coordination Meetings are held regularly. India and Bhutan cooperate and coordinate closely in security matters. The Royal Government of Bhutan is committed not to allow use of its territory against India in any manner.

Opening of China Study Centres in Nepal is a matter concerning Nepal-China bilateral relations. India does not view its own bilateral relations with Nepal through the prism of Nepal's relations with third countries. Government continues to take all necessary measures to strengthen our close and civilizational bilateral ties with Nepal, and to safeguard our interests. The Government of Nepal has assured that it will take all necessary steps to curb fundamentalist and anti-India activities along the India-Nepal border, and that it will not allow its territory to be used against India.