GOVERNMENT OF INDIA EXTERNAL AFFAIRS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:584 ANSWERED ON:26.11.2014 INDO JAPAN TIES Adityanath Shri Yogi;Kataria Shri Rattan Lal;Kumar Dr. Arun;Patel Smt. Jayshreeben ;Subbareddy Shri Yerram Venkata

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister visited Japan recently and if so, the details of talks held, agreements signed and co-operation envisaged during the said visit;

(b) the details of short term and long term policies formulated in the wake of these agreements between the two countries;

(c) the present status of the agreements signed during the Prime Minister's visit to Japan;

(d) whether a meeting has also been held with the External Affairs Minister of Japan and if so, the details of discussions held on the occasion and the steps envisaged for augmenting bilateral relations between the two countries; and

(e) whether any disagreement persist between India and Japan in any area and if so, the details thereof and steps taken/being taken to resolve the same?

Answer

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

(a) to (e) Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi paid an official visit to Japan from August 30 to September 03, 2014 for the annual summit meeting. It was his first major bilateral visit outside India's immediate neighbourhood. The visit commenced from Kyoto, where he was received by Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, who also hosted a private dinner for him.

In Tokyo, the two PMs had a restricted meeting followed by delegation level talks. Prime Minister called on the Emperor of Japan. Deputy Prime Minister and Finance Minister Taro Aso, Foreign Minister Fumio Kishida, Defence Minister Itsunori Onodera, Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry Toshimitsu Motegi and Minister for Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism, Akihiro Ota called on PM. Leaders of Democratic Party of Japan, main opposition party, and New Komeito Party, coalition partner of PM Shinzo Abe, also called on PM.

'Tokyo Declaration for India-Japan Special Strategic and Global Partnership' was signed by the two Prime Ministers and 'Factsheet: India and Japan- Partners for Common Development' was issued. The visit resulted in substantive outcomes. On the economic side, a new India- Japan Investment Promotion Partnership was launched, under which Japan conveyed its intention to invest 3.5 trillion yen of public-private investment in India over five year period as well as to double the number of Japanese companies operating in India. Defence equipment and technology was identified as a new major area of cooperation. During the visit, the Japanese side also agreed to removal of six Indian entities from the Japanese foreign-end user list. The two sides agreed to strengthen their cooperation and collaboration in several areas including in energy, LNG, railways, infrastructure, smart cities, science and technology and in promoting people to people exchanges.

The following agreements were signed during the visit of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi to Japan: (a) Memorandum on Defence Co-operation and Exchanges between Ministry of Defence of the Republic of India and the Ministry of Defense of Japan; (b) Memorandum of Cooperation between the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare of the Republic of India and the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare of Japan in the Field of Healthcare; (c) Memorandum of Cooperation in the Field of Women and Child Development between the Ministry of Women and Child Development of the Republic of India and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan; (d) Framework of Cooperation between Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, Government of India and Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism of Japan in the Roads and Road Transportation Sector; (e) Memorandum of Understanding between Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, Government of India and Japan Bank of International Cooperation; and (f) Confirmation of the intention regarding the Partner City Affiliation between City of Varanasi (Republic of India) and City of Kyoto (Japan).

The two countries have joint mechanisms at political and administrative levels to review progress in bilateral relations, including the status of implementation of various bilateral agreements. All issues of mutual interest are discussed in a friendly and forward-looking manner, which is consistent with the spirit of the Special Strategic and Global Partnership between India and Japan.