

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:155
ANSWERED ON:30.07.2003
EXCHANGE OF ENCLAVES WITH BANGLADESH
PRABODH PANDA

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has any plan to exchange enclaves with Bangladesh;
- (b) if so, the time by which these will be exchanged;
- (c) whether there has been any dialogue between the two countries in this regard; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH)

(a) to (d) A statement is placed on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in parts (a) to (d) of the reply to Lok Sabha Starred Question No.155 for answer on 30.7.2003

(a) to (d) The Government is committed to an early exchange of enclaves with Bangladesh in accordance with the terms of the India-Bangladesh Land Boundary Agreement of 1974. The Governments of India and Bangladesh had in 2001 constituted two Joint Boundary Working Groups to resolve all pending issues relating to implementation of the Land Boundary Agreement of 1974, including exchange of enclaves. Two meetings of the Groups have already been held. A decision has been taken by the two sides to continue bilateral discussions on the subject through the mechanism of the Joint Boundary Working Groups. It is not possible to give a time frame for effecting the exchange of the enclaves because discussions on the matter are ongoing with the Government of Bangladesh.