

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1406
ANSWERED ON:30.07.2003
INDIAN TERRITORIES UNDER OCCUPATION OF NEIGHBOURING COUNTRIES
RAMDAS ATHAWALE

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

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(a) The names of the neighbouring countries under which Indian territories have been under illegal occupation as on date and the date from which the land has been under such occupation; (

(b) Whether Pakistan has handed over some part of the Indian territory to China after occupying it illegally; (

(c) If so, the details thereof; (

(d) The area of land of the country liberated from the neighbouring countries so far; (

(e) Whether the attention of the international organisations has been drawn towards this matter; and (

(f) If so, their response thereto?

Answer

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

(a) to (f) India has outstanding boundary issues to be resolved with Pakistan and China. Differences between India and China on the boundary question surfaced in 1950s. Pakistan has been in illegal and forcible occupation of approximately 78,000 sq kms. Under so called "Sino-Pakistan Boundary Agreement of 1963", Pakistan illegally ceded 5,180 sq. kms. of Indian territory to China.

India and China seek a fair, reasonable and mutually acceptable settlement of the boundary question through peaceful consultations. In the Declaration of Principles for Relations and Comprehensive Cooperation issued on June 23, 2003 during Prime Minister's visit to China, India and China have agreed that both would appoint Special Representative to explore the framework of a boundary settlement, from the political perspective of the overall bilateral relationship.

India and Pakistan are committed under the Simla Agreement and as reiterated in the Lahore Declaration to resolve all outstanding issues peacefully through direct bilateral dialogue.