

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:49
ANSWERED ON:23.07.2003
FOREIGN VISITS OF PRIME MINISTER
SHYAMA SINGH;V. SAROJA

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the names of countries visited by our Prime Minister in the last three months and till date;
- (b) whether any agreements have been signed with these countries;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the various steps proposed to be taken to strengthen bilateral ties with these countries?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI VINOD KHANNA)

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

Statement referred to in parts (a) to (d) of the answer to Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 49 to be answered on 23.07.2003 regarding FOREIGN VISITS OF PRIME MINISTER.

Prime Minister visited Germany for the Annual Bilateral Summit from 27th - 30th May, 2003, St. Petersburg (Russian Federation) for tercentenary celebrations for the city of St. Petersburg, from 30th May to 01 June, 2003; Evian (France) for the G-8 Enlarged Dialogue from 1st - 3rd June, 2003 and the People's Republic of China from June 22-27, 2003.

2 A Joint Declaration on Principles for Relations and Comprehensive Cooperation between India and China was signed by the two Prime Ministers in Beijing.

3 The following ten agreements were also signed with the People's Republic of China:

- i MOU on Simplifying Visa Procedures;
- ii MOU on Expanding Border Trade through Nathu La Pass;
- iii MOU on Cooperation between the Ministry of Law and Justice of India and the Supreme People's Prosecution Service of China;
- iv Executive Programme for Educational Cooperation and Exchanges (2003-2006)
- v Executive Programme for Cultural Exchanges (2003-2005)
- vi MOU on the Reciprocal Establishment of Cultural Centres in Capitals;
- vii MOU on for Enhanced Cooperation in the field of Renewable Energy;
- viii MOU on for Cooperation in the field of Ocean Science and Technology;
- ix MOU on for Cooperation between the Department of Science and Technology of India and the National Science Foundation of China; and
- x Protocol on Phytosanitary Requirements for Exporting Mangoes from India to China.

4 Regular exchanges at both political and officials levels are planned to further strengthen and deepen bilateral relations with these countries.