

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1011

ANSWERED ON:01.03.2000

DISCUSSION ON KARMAPA ISSUE

RAGHUNANDAN LAL BHATIA;VENKATA KRISHNAM RAJU UPPALAPATI;Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY

**Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether China has sought information from Indian Government about Karmapa Lama`s visit to India;
- (b) if so, whether India had also requested China to provide full details about how Karmapa Lama left the Tibet and let it know the circumstances under which the 17th Karmapa Ugyen Trinley Dorje managed to travel the long arduous route to Dharamsala;
- (c) if so, whether both the countries have agreed to discuss this issue amicably;
- (d) if so, whether India and China are working together about this episode and there is a clear understanding between India and China on this issue; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH)

- (a): Following the arrival in Dharamsala on January 5, 2000 of Lama Ugyen Thinley Dorji, recognised by his supporters as the 17th Gyalwa Karmapa, the Chinese Government requested the Government of India to provide information regarding his whereabouts.
- (b): The Chinese side has been requested to share with us details regarding the circumstances of his departure from Tibet for India.
- (c) - (e): India and China have been in touch through diplomatic channels. The two sides have noted with satisfaction the improvement and development of bilateral relations on the basis of Panchsheel.