

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:26  
ANSWERED ON:03.12.2003  
INDO CHINA BORDER ISSUE  
ANANTA NAYAK;NITISH SENGUPTA

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

- (a) whether talks were held recently to resolve the Indo-China border issue;
- (b) if so, the details in this regard and the outcome thereof;
- (c) the total area of Indian territory under the Chinese occupation at present;
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to get back these areas; and
- (e) the reaction of the Chinese Government in this regard?

**Answer**

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

(a) to (e): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN PARTS (a) TO (e) OF THE ANSWER TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 26 NOT TO BE ANSWERED ON 03.12.2003

Indo-China Border Issue

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) China continues to be in illegal occupation of approximately 38,000 square kilometres in the Indian State of Jammu & Kashmir. In addition, under the so-called Sino-Pakistan Boundary Agreement of 1963, Pakistan illegally ceded 5,180 square kilometres of Indian territory in Pakistan Occupied Kashmir to China. China also illegally claims approximately 90,000 square kilometres of Indian territory in the Eastern Sector of the India-China boundary in Arunachal Pradesh.

2 In the Declaration on Principles for Relations and Comprehensive Cooperation issued on June 23, 2003 during Prime Minister's visit to China, India and China reiterated their readiness to seek a fair, reasonable and mutually acceptable solution of the boundary question through consultations on an equal footing. It was agreed that pending an ultimate boundary settlement, the two countries would work together to maintain peace and tranquility in their border areas and continue to implement the agreements signed for this purpose, including for the clarification of the Line of Actual Control. India and China also agreed to each appoint Special Representative to explore from the political perspective of the overall bilateral relationship the framework of a boundary settlement. The National Security Adviser has been appointed the Special Representative from the Indian side. China has appointed its Executive Vice Foreign Minister as his counterpart.

3. The Special Representatives of the Governments of India and China on the Boundary Question held their first meeting in New Delhi on October 23-24, 2003. The meeting was held in a cordial, constructive and cooperative atmosphere. On October 24, 2003, the Chinese Special Representative called on Prime Minister and External Affairs Minister. The Special Representatives agreed to meet again on mutually acceptable dates in Beijing.