

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
DEFENCE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1322  
ANSWERED ON:03.08.2006  
DEFENCE -TIES  
Reddy Shri K. Jayasurya Prakash

**Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Minister of Defence visited Japan and Singapore recently; and  
(b) if so, the issues discussed and decisions arrived?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE)

(a) & (b): A statement is attached.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS

(a)&

(b) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1322 FOR ON 3.8.2006

Raksha Mantri (RM) visited Japan from May 25-28, 2006 at the invitation of Japanese Minister of State for Defence Mr. Fukushima Nukaga. RM held in-depth discussions with Mr. Nukaga on bilateral, regional and international issues of mutual interests focusing in particular on cooperation between India and Japan in the areas of security and defence cooperation. It was agreed during the discussions to pursue cooperation, by promoting dialogue, exchanges and mutual understanding between the two sides. RM met the Japanese Minister for Land, Infrastructure and Transport Mr. Kazuo Kitagawa and discussed mutual cooperation between the Coast Guards of India and Japan on maritime security. RM also had useful interactions with Japanese Chief Cabinet Secretary, Mr. Shinzo Abe, and Foreign Minister Mr. Taro Aso. During the visit, the need for both Governments to work together was reaffirmed. The broad objectives of India-Japan cooperation in defence and security fields and the specific areas of cooperation and suggested mechanisms for the implementation of these objectives were also defined. Overall, it was a successful visit, that would help in strengthening the defence and security related cooperation between India and Japan.

2. RM visited Singapore from 2-4 June 2006 to attend the 5th Asia Security Summit, 'Shangri-La Dialogue', held in Singapore from 2-4 June 2006, annually organized by the London-based International Institute of Strategic Studies (IISS). During the visit, RM met, among others, the Prime Minister and Defence Minister of Singapore as well as the Singapore Minister Mentor, Lee Kuan Yew. During these meetings issues of mutual interests in the field of defence cooperation were discussed.