

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:97
ANSWERED ON:09.03.2005
STRATEGIC DIALOGUE WITH CHINA
Kalmadi Shri Suresh;Scindia Shri Jyotiraditya Madhavrao

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has held strategic dialogue with China recently;
- (b) if so, the details of the discussions held with Chinese Deputy Foreign Minister for Asian Affairs;
- (c) whether the Government has conveyed its concerns on nuclear proliferation in the neighbouring countries;
- (d) if so, the reaction of China thereto; and
- (e) the time by when a final agreement on border issue is likely to be signed by the two countries?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED)

(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. 97 TO BE ANSWERED ON 09.03.2005 REGARDING STRATEGIC DIALOGUE WITH CHINA

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) During the talks, both sides had in-depth exchange of views on important regional and global issues that shape the present international environment. Substantive discussions took place on bilateral relations, including in particular on preparations for the forthcoming visit of the Chinese Premier to India. Both sides noted with satisfaction recent positive trends in bilateral relations and reiterated their desire to improve the relationship at all levels and in all areas while addressing the outstanding differences, including the boundary question, in a fair, reasonable and mutually acceptable manner.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Both sides exchanged views on nuclear proliferation in the region, including the need for international efforts to deal with these proliferation concerns.

(e) While the two sides seek an early resolution of the boundary question, no timetable has been set to arrive at final settlement of this issue.