

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:88
ANSWERED ON:25.11.2009
INDO CHINA BILATERAL RELATIONS
Ramkishun Shri ;Shanavas Shri M. I.

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether bilateral relations between India and China has shown a growth in the recent times;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the effective measures being taken by the Government to build confidence between India and China?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (DR. SHASHI THAROOR)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) & (c) India and China have established a Strategic and Cooperative Partnership for Peace and Prosperity. There are regular political high-level contacts between the two countries. Prime Minister and the External Affairs Minister met their Chinese counterparts in October,2009. The bilateral trade between the two countries has crossed \$50 billion in 2008. The two sides have established a dialogue architecture at all levels to discuss the entire gamut of bilateral relations. The two sides have begun an Annual Defence Dialogue and held joint military exercises. The functional cooperation between India and China is expanding. Both sides have also promoted people to people exchanges, including exchanges between parliamentarians, political parties, academics and youth. The two sides are committed to resolving outstanding differences, including on the boundary question, through peaceful negotiations, while ensuring that such differences are not allowed to affect the positive development of bilateral relations.