

Sixteenth Lok Sabha

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Title: Regarding details of discussion between PM of India and President of China at G-20 Summit in Hamburg, Germany.

PROF. SAUGATA ROY (DUM DUM): The India-China standoff in the Doklam plateau enters the third week as the current border crisis started after Indian forces stopped the construction of a road by China in the Doklam region. Road construction is China's way of expanding territory. It has been doing so below Bhutan's claim line in the area for some time, brushing away protests by the tiny country. China is livid because India came to Bhutan's help and refused to allow its "mission creep" to continue further. If allowed to continue uncontested, Chinese action would render the corridor vulnerable, and have serious security implications for India. With this action, China has again upended an understanding between the special representatives. In 2005, India and China had agreed to a formulation on 'settled populations' in the guiding principles for a boundary settlement, but within a year, the Chinese envoy claimed all of Arunachal Pradesh, dismissing the agreement. Chinese officials have ruled out any talks with India until Indian troops "withdraw". China has some boundary differences with almost all 14 neighbours. All of them don't have friendly relations with China. On the other hand, some of the neighbours of China have come closer to India. All the neighbours of China are watching the border standoff with India, if the situation escalates to a war, it would send an alarming signal to others. China can't expect all the neighbours especially, Japan and Vietnam to remain unaffected if it enters into war with India. Further, this may also hamper China's One-Belt-One-Road (OBOR) initiative, which tops the priority list of President Xi Jinping, who is eyeing the role of global leader for his country. China has stated that Xi Jinping and our Prime Minister will not hold bilateral talks during G-20 Summit at Hamburg in Germany. While sources here maintained that the five- minute

meeting between PM Narendra Modi and President Xi Jinping in Hamburg went "better than expected", the Chinese government refused to agree that a meeting took place at all. I would request the government to reveal the details of the discussion between Prime Minister of India & President of China at Hamburg.

