GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

RAJYA SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO-169

ANSWERED ON-03.01.2018

Meeting of Joint Economic Group of India and China

169 . Shri C.M. Ramesh

(a) by when the Joint Economic Group (JEG) of India and China is going to meet to discuss about trade and commerce between the two countries;

(b) the reasons for which no JEG meeting has taken place after 2015; and

(c) the decisions taken in 2015 JEG meeting and status of implementation of each of the decisions taken in 2015?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(SHRI SURESH PRABHU)

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

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STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 169 FOR ANSWER ON 03RD JANUARY,2018 REGARDING “MEETING OF JOINT ECONOMIC GROUP OF INDIA AND CHINA”.

(a) to (c): India-China Joint Economic Group (JEG) meeting was last held on 2nd September, 2014 in Beijing, as its 10th Session. The JEG is intended to be a biennial meeting, alternatively in India and China, on a set of mutually convenient dates. Accordingly, India proposed to hold the 11th JEG meeting on the margin of the BRICS Summit in Goa in October 2016. However, the Chinese side suggested that the meeting could be instead convened in early 2017. Although, India agreed to host the same in March/April, 2017 but a new Minister for Commerce of China, who heads the JEG from the Chinese side, assumed charge in February 2017 and it was suggested by the Chinese side that the meeting be postponed in light of the above. Commerce Minister during a meeting with Chinese Commerce Minister on the margins of the 5th Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) Ministerial meeting in Manila in September 2017, requested the Chinese Minister to indicate a set of dates for convening the 11th JEG meeting. This was again followed up with a formal invitation letter from the Commerce Minister to the Chinese Commerce Minister on 20th September, 2017, requesting him to suggest convenient dates for convening the 11th JEG meeting in New Delhi in November/December, 2017. The Indian Ambassador to China in his follow up action sent another Note Verbale on 10th November, 2017 to the Director General of Ministry for Commerce, China to indicate convenient dates for convening the 11th JEG this year in India. The Chinese side is yet to communicate their response. Being a biennial meeting there was no JEG meeting held between India and China in the year 2015.

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