

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.401**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 04.02.2021

**NEGOTIATIONS WITH CHINA TO ADDRESS BORDER DISPUTES**

401. SHRI ANAND SHARMA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has held negotiations with China to address border disputes in Ladakh and Arunachal Pradesh;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and number of talks held;
- (c) whether such discussions have led to any agreements to address these disputes, both short and long term; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
[SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN]

(a) to (d) In order to explore the framework for a boundary settlement from the political perspective of the overall bilateral relationship, India and China have each appointed a Special Representative (SR). There have been twenty two meetings of SRs so far with the last meeting held in New Delhi on 21 December 2019. The two sides have agreed to seek a fair, reasonable and mutually acceptable solution to the boundary question through dialogue and negotiations. They also agree that pending final settlement of the boundary question, maintenance of peace and tranquility in the border areas is an essential basis for the overall development of the bilateral relationship.

In 2005, the two sides signed 'Agreement on the Political Parameters and Guiding Principles for the Settlement of the India-China Boundary Question'.

From April-May last year, there had been an enhanced deployment of troops and armaments by the Chinese side in the border areas and along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in the Western Sector. Since mid-May the Chinese side attempted to transgress the LAC in several areas of the Western Sector of the India-China border area. These attempts were invariably met with an appropriate response from our side.

To address the issues arising from such attempts, the two sides have been engaged in discussions through the established military and diplomatic channels. The Senior Commanders from both sides have held nine meetings on 6 June 2020, 22 June 2020, 30 June 2020, 14 July 2020, 2 August 2020, 21 September 2020, 12 October 2020, 6 November 2020 and 24 January 2021. In addition, six meetings of the Working Mechanism for Consultation and Coordination on India-China border affairs (WMCC) have also been held on 24 June, 10 July, 24 July, 20 August, 30 September and 18 December 2020.

Raksha Mantri met the Chinese Defence Minister General Wei Fenghe on 4 September 2020 in Moscow. Raksha Mantri conveyed that the two sides should resolve the ongoing situation and outstanding issues in the border areas peacefully through dialogue.

External Affairs Minister met Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi on 10 September 2020 in Moscow. Both Ministers had a frank and constructive discussion on the developments in the India-China border areas and reached a five point agreement to address the ongoing issues along the LAC. The two Foreign Ministers agreed that the current situation in the border areas is not in the interest of either side. They agreed therefore that the border troops of both sides should continue their dialogue, quickly disengage, maintain proper distance and ease tensions.

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