

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.405
TO BE ANSWERED ON 04.02.2021

INDIA-CHINA RELATIONS

405. SHRI VIJAY PAL SINGH TOMAR:
DR. AMEE YAJNIK:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that despite India's efforts to maintain amicable relations, China continues with its hostile ways;
- (b) if so, the manner in which India would deal with the double standard of China; and
- (c) if not, the details of progress made with regard to relations with China during the last two years?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c) India's engagement with China is complex. In the last few years, the two sides have agreed to manage their differences and not allow differences on any issue to become disputes. In addition, the two sides also agree that the future direction of India China relations should be built upon mutual respect for each other's developmental aspirations, bearing in mind the importance of respecting each other's sensitivities, concerns and aspirations.

As regards the boundary question, the two sides have agreed to seek a fair, reasonable and mutually acceptable solution through dialogue and negotiations. Further the two sides 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.

However, since April/May 2020 the Chinese side undertook several attempts to unilaterally alter the status quo along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in Western Sector. These attempts have been responded to appropriately by our armed forces. It has also been made clear to the Chinese side that such unilateral attempts are unacceptable. These actions have seriously disturbed the peace and tranquility along the LAC in the Western Sector.

Over the last several months, we have been engaged with the Chinese side through diplomatic and military channels to ensure complete disengagement from all friction points and full restoration of peace and tranquility in the India-China Border Areas.

External Affairs Minister met Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi on 10 September 2020 in Moscow. 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.

In accordance with this direction, six meetings of the Working Mechanism for Consultation and Coordination on India-China border affairs (WMCC) and nine meetings of the Senior Commanders have been held.