

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**

**RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO.*255
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18.03.2021**

WIND MILL PROJECT BY CHINA IN KATCHATHEEVU, PALK STRAIT

255. SHRI VAIKO:

Will the Minister of **EXTERNAL AFFAIRS** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has registered any protest against wind mill projects being given to Chinese company by Sri Lanka on the strategic Katchatheevu, Palk Strait; if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether any concern has been expressed over China's continued economic and political influence in Colombo and on the Indian Ocean region; if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether the issue would be taken up with friendly countries to resolve it; and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
(DR. SUBRAHMANYAM JAISHANKAR)

- (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (c) OF THE RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 255 REGARDING “WIND MILL PROJECT BY CHINA IN KATCHATHEEVU, PALK STRAIT” FOR ANSWER ON 18.02.2021

There is no information about wind mill projects being given to Chinese company by Sri Lanka on Katchatheevu Island. According to reports, the Cabinet of Ministers of Sri Lanka had approved a proposal to award the contract for installing hybrid renewable energy systems on the islands of Delft, Nainativu and Analaitivu near Jaffna to a joint venture of Chinese companies, as part of a project funded by the Asian Development Bank.

Government attaches high priority to its relationship with its neighbouring countries. India's relations with its neighbours stand on their own footing and are independent of the relations of those countries with third countries. India is confident about the strength and enduring nature of its bilateral ties with Sri Lanka, which are deep-rooted and multi-dimensional.

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