

[3 May, 2007]

RAJYA SABHA

**Indo-Japan talks**

**3092. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR:** Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the topics on which talks were held between Governments of India and Japan recently when the Minister visited Tokyo;

(b) the details of the decisions arrived at; and

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the two Government to implement them?

**THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE):** (a) to (c) The External Affairs Minister visited Japan on 22-23 March, 2007 at the invitation of the Foreign Minister of Japan. The two Ministers initiated the first Ministerial-level Strategic Dialogue between the two countries. They exchanged views on ways to enhance cooperation on regional, multilateral and global issues, and reiterated their readiness to cooperate in the process of community building in the Asian region. Both sides also discussed ways to strengthen bilateral relations through the implementation of understandings and agreements contained in the Joint Statement signed by the two Prime Ministers in December, 2006. During the visit, the two sides agreed on the modalities for High Level Energy Dialogue and the Bilateral Consultation Mechanism on High Technology Trade. Government are regularly monitoring progress on the implementation of understandings reached with Japan in the fields of defence and security, economic cooperation, science & technology & people-to-people exchanges.

**Peaceful use of atomic energy**

**3093. MS. SUSHILA TIRIYA:** Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India has sought the support of some countries for gaining access to high-tech know how and equipments for peaceful use of atomic energy etc; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?