

(b) if so, what are the details and the highlights thereof; and

(c) what benefits are likely to accrue to the country following this agreement?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

#### **Increase in activities by Chinese Army along Border**

‡2780. SHRI KRISHAN LAL BALMIKI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that Chinese army has increased its activities along Uttaranchal and Himachal border; and

(b) if so, what is the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) There has been no significant change in the Chinese activity along Uttaranchal and Himachal border. The security forces are constantly monitoring the situation along the border keeping in view the threat perception.

#### **Visit of Defence Minister to Japan and China**

2781. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA:

SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the objectives pursued by Government during recent visits of Defence Minister to Japan and China;

(b) the summary of the outcome of the said visits;

(c) whether talks were held for consolidating strategic partnership for peace and stability in the region;

(d) the details of the MoU or accord, if any, reached as a result thereof; and

(e) the details of the ranks of the Ministry of External Affairs who accompanied him on these visits, besides the Indian Embassy officials posted at Tokyo and Beijing?

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‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.