

SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ: Sir, I have already asked my people to prepare it. Two Ministries are involved, Defence and DoP. We will get the feedback, and as early as possible, once we are committed, we will come back to you.

श्री सभापति : अभी यह तैयार नहीं हुई है?

SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ: No; absolutely, because it was lying in a sealed cover. Now, the House has taken it up; we are working on it. We are working on it speedily. We are not running away from the House. We said ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री प्रमोद महाजन : सर, इनको कवर ओपन करने का भी टाइम नहीं है? कवर फाड़ने का भी टाइम नहीं है?

श्री हंसराज भारद्वाज : अगर आप चाहते हैं तो ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री यशवंत सिन्हा : अभी अरुण जेटली जी ने आपको बताया कि क्या कानून है और आप कैसे सदन में कह सकते हैं कि कानून मंत्री को कानून की जानकारी नहीं है?

श्री हंसराज भारद्वाज : कानून की जानकारी आपसे ज्यादा है। यह रिपोर्ट सदन की टेबल पर*(व्यवधान)*..

श्री यशवंत सिन्हा : यह दो महीने में क्यों नहीं आई? ...*(व्यवधान)*..

श्री सभापति : बैठिए ...बैठिए।

SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE: Sir, you have already taken up the case. Why are they bothering about it?

श्री सभापति : बैठिए ...बैठिए ...अब प्राइम मिनिस्टर स्टेटमेंट देंगे।

STATEMENTS BY PRIME MINISTER

Recent Visits of Chinese Premier and President of Pakistan

THE PRIME MINISTER (DR. MANMOHAN SINGH): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to inform the hon. Members of two important visits to our country in the last two weeks.

Sir, Premier Wen Jiabao of China paid a State visit to India from April 9-12, 2005. The visit was substantive in its outcome. Premier Wen has himself described it as 'historic'.

[20 April, 2005]

RAJYA SABHA

Sir, my meeting with the Chinese Premier on April 11 was most warm and productive. We signed a Joint Statment, which contains a vision of where India-China relations are headed and an action plan for cooperation in bilateral, regional and global domains. A copy of the Joint Statement is place on the Table of the House. Eleven other agreements were signed and the report of the India-China Joint Study Group on comprehensive trade and economic cooperation was released. The range of agreements concluded reflects the rapid strides made in our relations with China in recent years. Premier Wen Jjabao and I agreed that India-China relations have entered a new phase of comprehensive development.

In the Joint Statement, we have agreed to establish a "Strategic and Cooperative Partnership for Peace and Prosperity". It codifies the consensus between us that India-China relations transcend bilateral issues and *have now acquired a global and strategic character*. The partnership also reflects our desire *to proactively resolve outstanding differences, while not letting them come in the way of continued development of relations*. This is not in the nature of a military pact or alliance but reflects a congruence of purpose apart from a common perception of world events.

Sir, a major outcome of the visit was the Agreement on the Political Parameters and Guiding Principles for the Settlement of the India-China Boundary Question. A copy of the Agreement is placed on the Table of the House. This understanding has been possible as a result of deliberations between the Special Representatives of India and China on the boundary question. The institution of Special Representatives was created during my distinguished predecessor's visit to China in June, 2003. The Agreement rs-truly a major milestone on the way to the settlement of the boundary question. It provides for a "political settlement" of the boundary question in the context of the "overall and long-term interests" of the two countries. Both sides have agreed that an early boundary settlement should be pursued as a "strategic objective".

The Agreement sets out for the first time ever, principles for an overall settlement of the India-China boundary question. While this understanding is of great significance, we do acknowledge that we are still quite some distance away from a final boundary settlement.

We have agreed that in the meantime, the two sides will strictly respect and observe the line of actual control (LAC), maintain peace and tranquillity

in the border areas and expedite the work of clarification and confirmation of the line of actual control. The Protocol on the Modalities for the implementation of Confidence Building Measures in the Military Field in the Border Areas, signed during the Chinese Premier's visit, will help in maintaining peace along the line of actual control.

During my meeting with Premier Wen, he stated that China regarded Sikkim as an "inalienable part of India", and that Sikkim was no longer an issue in India-China relations. The Joint Statement signed by us explicitly refers to "Sikkim State of the Republic of India". The Chinese side has officially handed over to us a revised map showing Sikkim as within the international boundaries of India.

The understandings reached during the visit will also give a major fillip to the economic dimension of the relationship, to which both sides are attaching a great deal of importance. Bilateral trade has been growing rapidly and crossed the US \$ 13 billion mark last year. A target of US \$ 20 billion by 2008 is envisaged. During my meeting with Premier Wen, we agreed that the India-China Joint Economic Group, co-chaired by the two Commerce Ministers, will oversee facilitation and expansion of trade in goods and services, investment flows and other areas of economic cooperation. Premier Wen and I agreed to set up a Joint Task Force as well to examine the feasibility and benefits of Trading Arrangements.

The Chinese Premier and I also had a useful exchange of views on regional and multilateral issues. Among other things, we agreed on the importance of comprehensive reforms in the UN system. *China conveyed that it attached great importance to the status of India in international affairs and understood and supported India's desire to play an active role in the U.N. and international affairs.*

I believe the Chinese Premier's visit to India will give a significant boost to the all-round development of India-China relations. Our policy towards China is characterised by continuity and consensus.

Sir, I would now like to mention about the visit of the President of Pakistan.

The President of Pakistan, General Pervez Musharraf visited India from April 16 to 18, 2005. I had invited him to the cricket match in New Delhi, and we used the opportunity of his presence here to hold substantive

[20 April, 2005]

RAJYA SABHA

discussions on a wide range of bilateral issues. We also issued a joint Statement which takes stock of our relations and outlines the ideas and activities agreed upon between us to move our bilateral relationship forward. A copy of the Joint Statement is placed on the Table of the House.

During our talks, President Musharraf and I reviewed the progress made in our bilateral relations. We assessed positively the progress that had been made through Confidence-Building Measures, people-to-people contacts and enhancing areas of interactions, and expressed our determination to build on the momentum already achieved. I also conveyed to President Musharraf the great importance we attach to enhanced bilateral economic and commercial cooperation. I underlined the need to multiply beneficial linkages of trade and transit, including the gas pipeline. We agreed that greater cooperation between the two largest economies of South Asia would not only contribute to the well-being of the peoples of the two countries but also bring a higher level of prosperity for the entire region.

We agreed on several forward-looking measures to increase interaction between the countries, among them being the restoration of the rail link between Khokrapar and Munnabao. Each of these is reflected in the Joint Statement.

Earlier this month, we started the Srinagar-Muzaffarabad bus service despite terrorist threats and a dastardly suicide attack on the Srinagar Tourist Reception Centre. The courage and determination of our peoples and the *condemnation by our Governments* as contained in the Joint Statement, of *attempts to disrupt* this important initiative, give us confidence for its continued and successful operation *with even greater frequency in the future*. I am convinced the bus service has tapped a latent reservoir of public support for greater people-to-people contact, especially, among people living on either side of the Line of Control.

The issue of Jammu and Kashmir was also discussed in a positive atmosphere. I emphasized that while the redrawing of boundaries was not

possible, all measures that could bring the peoples on both sides together, including *increased transportation linkages to facilitate greater traffic of people and trade across the border and the Line of Control* would help the process and create an atmosphere of mutual trust and confidence. President Musharraf and I agreed to continue our discussions in a sincere, purposeful and forward-looking manner. We have agreed to work together to carry forward the process and to bring the benefit of peace to people of our two countries, and in particular, the people of Jammu and Kashmir.

Sir, President Musharraf stressed the importance of addressing the Jammu and Kashmir issue. However, he also agreed that the confidence building process between the two countries had made significant progress. We both felt that this process would contribute to promoting a general sense of trust and understanding in our two countries, which in turn would be conducive to creating the environment for a just, fair and mutually acceptable solution to all outstanding issues. Consequently, *we agreed to pursue further measures to enhance interaction and cooperation across the LoC including agreed meeting points for divided families, trade, pilgrimages and cultural interaction.*

The Joint Statement specifically re-affirmed the commitments made in the Joint Press Statement of January 6, 2004, and the Joint Statement issued after the meeting of the Indian Prime Minister and the Pakistani President in New York on September 24, 2004. This re-affirmation addressed our concerns relating to terrorism from across the border. The Joint Statement also contained a pledge that terrorism would not be allowed to impede the peace process. It also underlines the importance of the peace process and the degree of improvement in relations between the two countries.

While I am satisfied with the progress achieved in our talks during the visit, we should remain conscious of the difficulties ahead. The difficult issues that divide us have bedevilled relations between India and Pakistan for far too long to hope for an immediate resolution. The threat to the peace process from extremist forces and terrorist organisations has not been eliminated. Therefore, I mentioned to President Musharraf that the whole process of serious and sustained dialogue hinges on building an atmosphere of trust and confidence, free from violence and terror. We look forward to Pakistan implementing their assurances in letter and spirit.

[20 April, 2005]

RAJYA SABHA

Sir, as hon. Members are aware, the past year has been quite a remarkable one for our relations with Pakistan. The two countries successfully concluded one round of the Composite Dialogue and have already commenced the next round. Diplomatic and other links have been normalised and restored to the pre-December 13, 2001 level. People-to-people exchanges are taking place across the spectrum in overwhelming numbers. The ceasefire being observed along the International Border, the Line of Control and the Actual Ground Position Line in Siachen has, with the exception of a few stray incidents, held since November, 2003.

India is committed to peace and friendship with Pakistan. We sincerely seek a cooperative and constructive relationship with Pakistan, I was heartened to see that this desire is reciprocated by the Pakistan side, and that there is considerable popular support for an improved relationship in both countries. To create such a durable cooperative and constructive relationship, we need to invest in the ongoing process of engagement and confidence building and ensure that recent positive trends are sustained. We have chalked out a detailed schedule and agenda for the round of the composite dialogue that has commenced. We believe that persistent and purposeful engagement will show us the way to peace and enable us to fulfil the promise of friendship and cooperation that we have made to our people.

श्री सभापति : इस पर क्लेरिफिकेशंस बाद में होंगे। क्लेरिफिकेशंस का समय निर्धारित करके जवाब दे दिया जाएगा।

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: (Jharkhand): The Leader of the Opposition has already suggested that in view of the importance of these two visits and the importance of these two relationships this House may have a full-fledged discussion on the developments which have taken place. This is the request that we are making from our side.

कार्मिक, लोक शिकायत और पेंशन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री तथा संसदीय कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सुरेश पचौरी) : बीएसी में अभी हम लोगों की मीटिंग है, इसके बारे में तय कर लेंगे।

श्री सभापति : ठीक है। सदन की कार्यवाही एक घंटे के लिए स्थागित की जाती है।

The House then adjourned for lunch at five minutes past one of the clock.

The House re-assembled at six minutes past two of the clock, MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

MOTIONS

Fourth Report of Committee on Ethics

DR. KARAN SINGH (NCT of Delhi): I move:

"That the Fourth Report of the Committee on Ethics presented to the Rajya Sabha on the 14th March, 2005, be taken into consideration."

I also move:

"That this House agrees with the recommendations contained in the Fourth Report of the Committee on Ethics presented to the Rajya Sabha on the 14th March, 2005."

Mr Deputy Chairman, Sir, ethics plays a very important role in the life of any nation and this is particularly so in India where our civilisation has been founded, from the very beginning, on certain moral and ethical values. Those values are expressed in various classics, in various shastras and various texts belonging to different religions. But, basically, our civilisation and our national movement led by Gandhiji had a very strong ethical background. Gandhiji was not only a political leader but also a moral leader. His moral force and his ethical standards were so high that they were really unique in the world. Our national motto is सत्यमेव जयते; that itself is an ethical statement, and is from the Mundaka Upanishad. सत्यमेव जयति नानृतं सत्येन पन्था विततो देवयानः। येनाक्रमान्त्यृषयो प्राप्त कामा यत्र सत्सत्स्य परमं निधानम्। Truth alone triumphs. That is the very basis of any nation.

Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, there is the Buddhist saying— धर्मचक्र प्रवर्तनाय above the speaks Chair. This being so, we have always accepted the fact that what leaders do has a great influence upon what we do. In fact, in the book on the Ethics Committee, published by Rajya Sabha, the famous shloka of the Gita— यद्यदाचरति श्रेष्ठस्तत्तदेवेतरो जनः। स यत्प्रमाणं कुरुते लोकस्तदनुवर्तते ॥

That the manner in which leaders, श्रेष्ठाः, behave, the people will also behave in the same manner.