

Meeting with External Affairs Minister of China

†952. SHRI NARESH AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the issues discussed in the meeting of the External Affairs Minister of China and the External Affairs Minister of India after the formation of new Government;
- (b) whether India raised the issue of land grabbed by China; and
- (c) if so, China's reaction thereto, and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (GENERAL (RETD.) V.K. SINGH): (a) to (c) Foreign Minister of China Mr. Wang Yi visited India on 8-9 June, 2014 as the Special Envoy of the President of China. Various economic and political issues of bilateral, regional and international significance were raised and discussed in a frank and cordial manner. The discussions were comprehensive and substantive. The two delegations agreed that peace and tranquility on the border is the basis for the continued expansion of India-China relations.

Policy to improve relationship with SAARC countries

†953. SHRI SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state the Government's policy to make mutual relationship with South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) nations effective and cordial and the areas in which our relation with each country of SAARC nations exists at present and proposal to be expanded in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (GENERAL (RETD.) V.K. SINGH): India's relations with SAARC countries are based on shared partnership and mutuality of interests. India has enhanced its engagement with all SAARC countries both bilaterally and through the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) nations. India will continue to pro-actively engage with all members to develop cooperative linkages in the fields of trade, commerce, investment, infrastructure and connectivity, health, education, agriculture etc. in the framework of SAARC as well as bilaterally.

Government of India's policies and programmes in enhancing bilateral relationship with SAARC countries is given below:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.