

Chinese statement over Arunachal Pradesh

800. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR:
SHRI ARVIND KUMAR SINGH:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that Chinese Government has stated recently that there is huge dispute with India over Arunachal Pradesh, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the reaction and response of Government thereto; and
- (c) the reasons for diplomatic failure of Government over border issue with China and to check the repeated intrusions in Indian territory by Chinese Army?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS [GENERAL (RETD.) V.K. SINGH]: (a) and (b) China disputes the international boundary between India and China. In the Eastern Sector, China claims approximately 90,000 square kilometers of Indian territory in the State of Arunachal Pradesh. It is reiterated that Arunachal Pradesh is an integral and inalienable part of India. This has been clearly conveyed to the Chinese side on several occasions, including at the highest level.

(c) The two sides agree that peace and tranquility on the border is the basis for the continued expansion of India-China relations. The two sides are committed to resolving bilateral issues through dialogue and peaceful negotiations and in a fair, reasonable and mutually acceptable manner.

China building tunnel under Mount Everest

801. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the fact that China plans to build a tunnel under Mount Everest to extend its Qinghai Lhasa Line rail link to Nepal;
- (b) if so, whether China trying to involve Nepal in its Bangladesh-China-India-Myanmar project, if so, the response of the Union Government thereon; and
- (c) whether the China is also trying to influence neighbourhood, if so, the response of the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS [GENERAL (RETD.) V.K. SINGH]: (a) Government is aware of such media reports.