

Indo-Chinese relations

2407. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and China are trying hard to broad-base their ties after the Doklam military standoff;

(b) whether a host of disagreements over contentious issues including Beijing's blockage of New Delhi's efforts to get Pakistan-based militant leaders listed under the United Nations Sanctions List and the stonewalling of India's entry to the Nuclear Suppliers Group-continue to linger; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken to iron out these contentious issues between India and China?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS [GENERAL (RETD.) V. K. SINGH]: (a) to (c) During the visit of President of the People's Republic of China Mr. Xi Jinping to India in September 2014, the two sides forged a Closer Developmental Partnership, which was further consolidated during the visits of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi to China in May 2015 and April 2018. Both sides have agreed to work towards strengthening the Closer Developmental Partnership for mutual benefit.

In our multifaceted engagement with China, in areas where we have commonality of views, engagement has expanded and upgraded in recent years. Issues where there are differences are being handled through dialogue to seek a fair, reasonable and mutually acceptable solution based on mutual respect and sensitivity to each other's interests, concerns and aspirations.

Accordingly, both sides have been working towards utilizing their bilateral dialogue mechanisms to promote mutually beneficial cooperation in a wide range of areas.

Both sides agree that progress in bilateral relations should be guided by the consensus reached between their leaders that at a time of global uncertainty, India-China relations are a factor of stability, and that the two countries must not allow their differences to become disputes.

As regards China's blocking of international efforts for listing of Pakistan based terrorists under the United Nations Sanctions Committee, Government has been raising

the issue with China, including at the highest level, consistently highlighting the threat of cross-border terrorism emanating from Pakistan and affecting the region, including India.

India has also remained engaged in dialogue with China, which is a member of the Nuclear Suppliers Group, on matters related to India's membership of the Nuclear Suppliers Group.

Private individuals accompanying PM on his foreign visit

2408. SHRI BINOY VISWAM: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of non-Governmental and private individuals who accompanied Prime Minister in his foreign visits during 2014 to 2018;
- (b) the names of private individuals and the purpose of taking them along with Prime Minister; and
- (c) the details of expenditure incurred on the visits, if private individuals have accompanied along the Prime Minister during these visits?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS [GENERAL (RETD.) V. K. SINGH]: (a) to (c) The Prime Minister's delegation on foreign visits usually consists of representatives from the Prime Minister's office, the security agencies, Ministry of External Affairs and Media agencies. These officials are selected on the basis of functional requirements of that specific foreign trip. All these officials perform their specific duties assigned to them during the visit.

As regards non-Governmental delegates, it has been the practice that a small media contingent accompanies the Prime Minister on board the special flight. At present, this comprises the Doordarshan, AIR, Photo Division and ANI. In the past, it included agencies like PTI and UNI. The details of the media persons that accompanied Prime Ministers during visits abroad is available in public domain.

The details of the expenditure incurred during the Prime Minister's visits is also available in public domain.

Utilisation of Bombay House

2409. SARDAR SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state the details of proposals under consideration to utilise the