

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.881
TO BE ANSWERED ON 07.02.2017**

RELATIONS WITH NEIGHBOURING COUNTRIES

881. SHRI R. DHRUVA NARAYANA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the relations between India and China have improved since the Doklam standoff in 2017;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the manner in which the Government plans to improve our relations with our neighbouring country;
- (d) whether the Government is taking any extra measures to ensure the security of the North Eastern States, bordering China; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
[GEN. (DR) V. K. SINGH (RETD)]**

(a) to (c) India's engagement with China is multifaceted. 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 due sensitivity to each other's interests, concerns and aspirations.

Both sides share the view that India-China bilateral relationship has an important role to play in the 21st Century in Asia and in the world, and that it serves the shared interest of the two sides to strengthen their Closer Developmental Partnership.

In view of the significance of the bilateral relationship, both sides are working towards utilizing their bilateral dialogue mechanisms to promote mutually beneficial cooperation, and enhancing communication at all levels in order to build greater trust and understanding.

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 both sides must not allow their differences to become disputes.

(d) & (e) Government is fully seized of the security needs of the country and remains prepared to deal with and counter all kinds of

security challenges including at our borders. Government regularly reviews the threat perception to secure our borders and protect our national interest. Appropriate measures are taken from time to time to maintain and upgrade the country's defence preparedness to safeguard the sovereignty, territorial integrity and security of India.
