

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA

STARRED Q.NO. 69

ANSWERED ON 29.11.2024

IMPACT OF BRICS SUMMIT ON INDO-CHINA RELATIONS

***69. THIRU DAYANIDHI MARAN**

Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) the impact of the BRICS Summit in driving the India-China disengagement agreement;

(b) whether the deadline of the summit helped expedite any unresolved issues and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government provides periodic updates or issues a white paper to inform the public about the progress and changes along the LAC given the sensitivity of border matters and if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether there has been a formal statement from the Chinese Government on the border agreement and if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government has perceived any reluctance from China to publicly endorse the terms of this detente and if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether there is a structured mechanism in place to handle future misunderstandings or minor incidents that may arise along the LAC to prevent escalation and if so, the details thereof; and

(g) whether there are plans to ease rules for the issuance of visas between India and China and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

(DR. SUBRAHMANYAM JAISHANKAR)

(a) to (g) A statement is laid on the table of the House.

Statement referred in reply to parts (a) to (g) of the Lok Sabha Starred Question No. *69 for reply on 29.11.2024 regarding “Impact of BRICS Summit on India-China relations”

(a) to (g): Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi met with Mr. Xi Jinping, President of the People’s Republic of China, on the sidelines of the 16th BRICS Summit at Kazan on 23 October 2024.

During the meeting, Prime Minister Modi welcomed the agreement for complete disengagement and resolution of relevant issues that arose in 2020 in the India-China border areas. He underscored the importance of properly handling differences and disputes and not allowing them to disturb peace and tranquility in the border areas.

China’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs Spokesperson Lin Jian during the regular press conference on 22nd October 2024 said “Over a recent period of time, China and India have reached resolutions on issues concerning the border area following close communication through diplomatic and military channels. China commends the progress made and will continue working with India for the sound implementation of these resolutions.”

The readout of China’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs following the meeting between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and President Xi

Jinping mentioned that “The two leaders commended the important progress the two sides had recently made through intensive communication on resolving the relevant issues in the border areas.”

Government has regularly briefed the Parliament on the major milestones in resolution of issues and also released information through press releases and briefings. Raksha Mantri had briefed Parliament on 15 September 2020 and 11 February 2021 on significant developments in the Disengagement discussions with the Chinese side. Government also issued press statements on 15 September 2020 and 12 February 2021 in this regard.

Government regularly takes up any transgression along the LAC with the Chinese side through established mechanisms including border personnel meetings, flag meetings, meetings of Working Mechanism for Consultation & Coordination on India-China Border Affairs, the recent India-China Corps Commander Level Meeting mechanism as well as through diplomatic channels.

During the meeting between Prime Minister Modi and Chinese President Xi Jinping in Kazan on 23 October 2024, it was agreed that relevant dialogue mechanisms at the level of Foreign Minister and other officials will be utilized to stabilize and rebuild bilateral

relations. External Affairs Minister met Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi on the sidelines of G20 Summit on 18 November 2024. The discussions focused on the next steps in India-China relations. It was agreed that a meeting of the Special Representatives and of the Foreign Secretary-Vice Minister mechanism will take place soon. Among the steps discussed were the resumption of the Kailash Mansarovar Yatra pilgrimage, data sharing on trans-border rivers, direct flights between India and China and media exchanges.
