

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO- 714

ANSWERED ON- 29/11/2024

RESTRICTIONS ON INDIAN PATROLLING IN LADAKH

714 Adv. Adoor Prakash

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :-

(a) the details of terms of disengagement, especially any restrictions imposed on Indian patrolling in key areas of Eastern Ladakh

(b) the manner in which these terms of disengagement compared to the status quo before the clashes between Indian and Chinese troops;

(c) the manner in which the Government plans to address the growing concerns that recent disengagement agreements may inadvertently strengthen China's claims over Indian territories;

(d) the steps taken/ proposed to be taken by the Government to enhance transparency regarding the status of key territories and ensure that national security and territorial integrity are not compromised?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

(SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH)

(a to d) India and China reached agreement on patrolling arrangements along the Line of Actual Control in India-China border areas in Depsang and Demchok on 21 October 2024, leading to disengagement. It has been agreed therein that patrolling activities and, wherever applicable, grazing will resume as per longstanding practice before friction started in these areas. The agreement has since been effected and implemented as per modalities and timelines agreed.

The terms of the disengagement agreements reached prior to 21 October 2024 continue to hold in relevant areas in Eastern Ladakh.

The terms of the agreements apply mutually to both sides and are without prejudice to India's positions on LAC or boundary lines.

Government has regularly briefed Parliament on the major milestones in the resolution of these issues since the time of the friction in 2020.

Raksha Mantri had briefed the Parliament on 15 Sep 2020 and 11 Feb 2021. Government has also released information about relevant meetings and outcomes thereof through press releases and briefings.

Government continues to keep a constant watch on all developments having a bearing on India's security and takes all the necessary measures to safeguard its sovereignty and territorial integrity.
