



MFA/BDA-8/115

PRESS RELEASE

The 23rd Round of Boundary Talks between Bhutan and China was held in Thimphu on 24 August 2015. The talks were led by Lyonpo Damcho Dorji, Foreign Minister and Mr. Lui Zhenmin, Vice Foreign Minister, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of China.

During the talks the two leaders had in-depth discussions on the boundary issue as well as on bilateral relations. They also exchanged views on regional, international and other matters of mutual interest and concern.

They reviewed the progress on the boundary issue following the outcome of the 22nd Round of Boundary Talks held in Wutai Shan, China in July, 2014, the two Expert Group Meetings held in October, 2014 in Thimphu and in March, 2015 in Beijing, and the first phase of the Joint Technical Field Survey of the Western Sector carried out in June, 2015.

The two leaders decided that the final phase of the Joint Technical Field Survey of the Western Sector should be carried out in September, 2015 followed by a meeting of the Expert Group towards the end of the year to compile a joint report of the two surveys of the Western Sector. They also directed the two leaders of the Expert Group to discuss specific plans for a mutually acceptable resolution of the boundary based on the progress achieved so far.

The Report of the Expert Group on the joint field surveys of the Western Sector and their discussions on specific plans are expected to be considered by the leaders during the 24th Round of Boundary Talks which will be held sometime in 2016.

The two leaders expressed satisfaction with the Talks and agreed that it had further deepened understanding between the two sides on the boundary issue and bilateral relations. The Talks were held in a very warm and friendly atmosphere.

During his stay in Bhutan, the Vice Minister called on the Prime Minister and visited places of historical and cultural interest including Paro Taktshang. The Vice Minister and his delegation will leave Bhutan tomorrow, 27 August, 2015.

26 August, 2015

Ministry of Foreign Affairs
 Royal Government of Bhutan
 Thimphu

