

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-218
ANSWERED ON- 02/02/2024**

RELATIONS WITH NEIGHBOURING COUNTRIES

218. SHRI DEEPAK BAIJ

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

- (a) the current status of India's relations with its neighbouring countries during the last three years; and**
- (b) whether several neighbouring countries of India are falling under the influence of China and if so, the details thereof?**

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
(DR. RAJKUMAR RANJAN SINGH)**

(a & b) India's 'Neighbourhood First policy' continues to guide its approach towards the management of relations with countries in its immediate neighbourhood. This policy is an institutional priority for all the relevant arms of the Government. The Neighbourhood First policy, inter alia, has resulted in enhancing physical, digital and people to people connectivity across the region, as well as augmenting trade and commerce.

The Government keeps a constant watch on all developments having a bearing on India's national security interests and takes all necessary measures to safeguard it.
