

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2151
ANSWERED ON:08.03.2000
INDIA AND RUSSIA TO FORMALISE STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP
VILAS BABURAO MUTTEMWAR;Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) Whether Russia has informed India that the stage could now be set for formalisation of a strategic partnership between the two countries;
- (b) if so, the proposals which are under consideration to be signed during next Indo-Russian Summit between both the countries; and
- (c) the extent to which these proposals are likely to improve the relation between both the countries?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATES FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

(SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA)

(a), (b) & (c): Relations between India and the Russian Federation are time-tested and have traditionally been characterised by continuity, trust and mutual understanding. These are based on mutuality of interests and to mutual benefit. The principles governing our bilateral relations are enunciated in the bilateral Treaties of Peace, Friendship and Cooperation of August 9, 1971; of Friendship and Cooperation of January 28, 1993; the Declaration on Further Development and Enhancement of Cooperation of June 30, 1994; and the Moscow Declaration on the Protection of Interests of Pluralistic States of June 30, 1994. The Declaration on Strategic Partnership between India and the Russian Federation will carry forward the principles in the above Treaties.

The text of the Declaration on Strategic Partnership has been mutually agreed upon and would be signed during the next Indo-Russian Summit, expected to take place after the Presidential elections in the Russian Federation.