

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:427
ANSWERED ON:25.07.2001
MEETING OF BAY OF BENGAL GROUP OF COUNTRIES
VILAS BABURAO MUTTEMWAR

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a meeting of the Bay of Bengal group of countries on transport and communication was held in New Delhi in April, 2001;
- (b) if so, the names of the countries which participated in the meeting; and
- (c) the outcome thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH)

(a) and (b) The First Meeting of the Experts Group of Bangladesh, India, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Thailand Economic Cooperation [BIMST-EC] on Transport and Communications was held on April 23-24, 2001 in New Delhi. Experts from the five member countries of BIMST-EC participated in the meeting.

(c) At the meeting it was decided that the BIMST-EC countries should cooperate in the following areas: transport and cross border facilitation; multimodal transport and logistics; maritime transport (including inland water transport); infrastructure development; communication linkages and networking; human resource development in the field of transport and communication.