

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5769
ANSWERED ON:25.04.2001
INDO CANADA TIES
IQBAL AHMED SARADGI

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Canada has decided to resume normal ties with India ending a two-year freeze in relations over India`s nuclear tests;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether India has been apprised of the Canadian decision; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI U.V. KRISHNAM RAJU)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Canadian Foreign Minister made an announcement on 20th March 2001 that the Government of Canada will pursue the broadest possible political and economic relationship with India and encourage bilateral ministerial visits, resume full Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) programming in India, including industrial cooperation, and provide support to culture and sports, suspended since May 1998.

(c) The decision to this effect had been already conveyed to India during the visit of Assistant Deputy Minister of the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade of Canada in February 2001.

(d) The two sides discussed ways to take forward the relationship by enhancing cooperation in various sectors, including trade and investment, education and culture, and security and counter-terrorism.