

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3921
ANSWERED ON:17.04.2002
PROTOCOL OF COOPERATION BETWEEN INDIA AND RUSSIA
MADHUSUDAN DEVRAM MISTRY

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a protocol of cooperation between the Astrakhan region of the Russian Federation and Gujarat was signed in November, 2001;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the areas of cooperation envisaged under the protocol ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) & (c) During the State visit to India by President of the Russian Federation Mr. Vladimir Putin in October 2000, the Agreement between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the Russian Federation on the Principles of Cooperation between the Governments of the States and Union Territories of the Republic of India and the Bodies of Executive Authority of the Constitutional Entities of the Russian Federation was concluded. Within the framework of this umbrella Agreement, a Protocol of Cooperation between the State of Gujarat of the Republic of India and the Astrakhan Region of the Russian Federation was signed in Moscow on 6 November, 2001 during the State visit to the Russian Federation by Prime Minister Mr. Atal Bihari Vajpayee.

The Protocol is expected to promote cooperation between Gujarat and the Astrakhan Region of the Russian Federation in several fields including trade, health, education and culture.