GOVERNMENT OF INDIA EXTERNAL AFFAIRS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4842 ANSWERED ON:24.04.2002 EXTRADITION TREATY BETWEEN INDIA AND NEPAL UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) Whether the Government have negotiated with Nepal to update the 1953 Extradition Treaty between the two countries;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether there is any proposal to sign a Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty with Nepal; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH)

(a), (b), (c) & (d) The existing Treaty of Extradition between India and Nepal was signed on October 2, 1953, and needs to be updated in the light of current international practices and the SAARC Regional Convention on Suppression of Terrorism, to which both India and Nepal are signatory. With this objective, the Government of India on June 22, 1999 handed over to His Majesty's Government of Nepal a model text of an updated Extradition Treaty. A draft Agreement on Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters was also transmitted to His Majesty's Government of Nepal by Government of India on 22 June, 1999. These two drafts are presently under consideration of the Government of Nepal. The issue was discussed during the recent Home Secretary-level talks between India and Nepal, held in New Delhi from February 6-7, 2002, and both sides agreed to hold expert level discussions.

During the recent visit of the Nepalese Prime Minister to India from March 20-25, 2002, the two Prime Ministers reviewed the outcome of the Home Secretary-level talks and stressed the need for expeditious implementation of the decisions taken during that meeting, including an early conclusion of the Agreement for Mutual Legal Assistance and updating the Extradition Treaty.