

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:660
ANSWERED ON:07.05.2003
BILATERAL TIES WITH NORWAY
ANANTA NAYAK

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether steps are being taken by the Government to establish better bilateral relations with Nordic countries;
- (b) if so, the areas identified for the purpose; and
- (c) the programmes drawn up therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH)

a) India has warm and friendly relations with all Nordic countries. These have been strengthened by exchange of high level visits, enhancement of commercial and technological relations and as appropriate, the setting up of Joint Economic Commissions.

b)&c) Areas of cooperation with Nordic countries include enhancement of bilateral trade, cooperation in the energy sector and proposals for future collaboration in petroleum sector, polar research and environmental related studies.