

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:915  
ANSWERED ON:03.03.2010  
FRIENDSHIP PACT WITH BARCELONA  
Ponnam Shri Prabhakar

**Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether Barcelona offers to sign friendship pact with Delhi;
- (b) if so, the complete details thereof;
- (c) the details of such pacts signed by India with other countries; and
- (d) the purpose behind signing of such pacts, the benefits likely to accrue as a result thereof?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS(SMT. PRENEET KAUR)

(a) to (b) During a recent courtesy call of the officials of International Relations Department, Barcelona City Council on Hon'ble Chief Minister of Delhi on 8 February, 2010, the Spanish delegation expressed the desire of the Mayor of Barcelona to have a Twinning Agreement between Delhi and Barcelona. However, no Draft Agreement/MOU has been received in this regard from the Spanish side. If the Draft Agreement/MOU is received from the Spanish side in future, the same will be processed keeping in view the guidelines of the Government of India and the Delhi Government.

(c) to (d) As regards West Europe, a sister city Partnership Agreement between Bombay (now Mumbai) and Stuttgart, capital of the German State of Baden-Wurtemberg was signed on 30 March, 1968. A partnership MOU between the State of Karnataka and the German State of Bavaria was signed on 2 April, 2007. A sister city Agreement between London and Delhi was signed on 25 July, 2002. A recent proposal of Twinning Arrangement between Barcelona in Spain and Trivandrum in Kerala is currently under process.

Such Agreements between the States/cities of India with their counterparts in other countries promote friendly contacts, mutual understanding and cooperation in areas of mutual interest such as trade, investment, technology, infrastructure, urban issues, higher education, tourism and culture etc.