

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:690
ANSWERED ON:03.08.2011
INDIA'S ASSISTANCE TO SOUTH SUDAN
Mitra Shri Somendra Nath

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the newly formed South Sudan has sought India's assistance for its economic and technological development;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken/being taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS(SHRI E. AHAMED)

(a) & (b) Yes. Government of South Sudan has sought India's assistance for its economic and technological development which was conveyed during the first official visit of the Minister in the Office of the President of South Sudan, H.E. Ms. Priscilla Joseph Kuch, to India on April 28, 2011. During her talks with the Hon'ble Minister of External Affairs, H.E. Ms. Kuch, requested for India's assistance for the new state of South Sudan in the fields including health, agriculture, education, human resource development, rural development, animal husbandry, horticulture.

(c) Hon'ble Minister of State for External Affairs, Shri E. Ahamed subsequently led a multi-disciplinary delegation to Juba, South Sudan, from June 12-15, 2011, which included representatives from Dept of Agriculture & Cooperation, Directorate General of Health Services, and Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas, to finalise a road map for cooperation in various fields.

India has offered US\$ 5 million grant for socio-economic development of South Sudan. The projects envisaged in this regard include a Vocational Training Centre; Rural Technology Park; Agricultural Seed Production-cum-Demonstration Centre (through Regional Economic Community); and a complete package of Pan-African E-Network Project that include tele-medicine and tele-education. In addition, special training courses are envisaged for capacity building in South Sudan which include training in agriculture sector, food processing, rural development, oil & natural gas sector, and IT. India has also made a special offer of 75 ITEC slots to South Sudan.