

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2839  
ANSWERED ON:18.08.2011  
MOU BETWEEN INDIA AND LESOTHO  
Mitra Shri Somendra Nath

**Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether India and Lesotho have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) recently on cooperation in the field of rural development;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any financial aid and technical assistance for infrastructure development in the field of rural development is likely to be provided to Lesotho by Government under this MoU; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN `ADITYA`)

(a) & (b): Yes Sir. An MoU has been signed between the Government of India and the Government of Lesotho on 28th July, 2011 for cooperation in the field of Rural Development

(c) & (d): The cooperation between the parties will be implemented through:

# Technical assistance through consultancies, feasibility studies, exchange study visits and fellowships by sector specialists;

# Providing technology, equipment and material industry GIS/satellite imagery;

# Sector-specific in-country training (Lesotho) and training in India through established institutions and customized short term and medium-term courses;

# Institutional linkages and collaboration, to establish training facilities in Lesotho.

The expenditure towards the exchange of sector-specialists and technicians on study visits, training and consultancies will be borne by the Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India and the Ministry of Local Government and Chieftainship of the Government of Kingdom of Lesotho respectively. International air-passages will be met by the sending side, while local hospitality will be provided for, by the receiving side.