

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4408
ANSWERED ON:21.12.2011
TIES WITH BANGLADESH
Ponnam Shri Prabhakar

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India wants strong ties with Bangladesh; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken in this direction so far?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) India is committed to developing and strengthening its close and friendly relations with Bangladesh based on a vision for durable and long-term cooperation to achieve mutual peace, prosperity and stability. The landmark visits of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina of Bangladesh to India in January 2010 and the Prime Minister to Bangladesh in September 2011 paved the way for a new chapter in bilateral relations between the two countries. Considerable progress has been achieved in key areas of cooperation such as security, power, water sharing, land boundary, transit, connectivity, etc. A suo moto statement, which records the progress in our bilateral relations with Bangladesh, was issued on 8 September 2011 by the Minister of External Affairs in Parliament following the Prime Minister's visit to Bangladesh.