

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:343
ANSWERED ON:14.03.2012
INDIA'S FOREIGN POLICY
Singh Kunwar Rewati Raman

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to review its foreign policy;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the extent to which existing foreign policy is effective to develop cordial relationship with the neighbouring countries; and
- (d) the steps likely to be taken by the Government to develop cordial relationship with other countries?

Answer

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

- (a) & (b) The Government's foreign policy has proved effective in advancing India's national interests. It is dynamic in meeting new challenges and responding to the rapidly changing international scenario.
- (c) The Government accords the highest priority to its relations with the neighbouring countries and is guided by the fundamental premise that a stable, prosperous and peaceful neighbourhood is in the mutual interest of India and countries in the region.
- (d) The Government has intensified its engagement with countries across the globe at bilateral, regional and multilateral levels. India's role in diverse regional and international fora, covering the political, strategic, security, economic, commercial and cultural areas has been enhanced further. Our bilateral aid and assistance and capacity building programmes have also contributed to the strengthening of our ties with countries in different regions of the world.