

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:485

ANSWERED ON:15.03.2012

FRIENDSHIP PACT FOR IMPROVEMENT IN RESEARCH IN S & T

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Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the foreign countries have signed the friendship pact with India in improving the research in science and technology;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, country-wise during the last three years alongwith the terms and conditions thereof; and
- (c) the pacts existing with each country alongwith the objectives thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING; MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES (ASHWANI KUMAR)

(a) No, Madam, Ministry of Science and Technology has signed no "Friendship Pact" towards improvement of research in science and technology with any foreign country. However, the Department of Science and Technology has signed S&T cooperation and collaborative arrangements namely Inter-Governmental S&T Agreements/ Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)/ Programmes of Cooperation (POC) with 81 countries/international entities for undertaking joint research and development and participation in various bilateral and global projects.

(b) During the last three years (2009-10 to 2011-12) inter-governmental S&T Agreements were signed with 6 countries, namely with Botswana, Ethiopia, Georgia, Myanmar, Singapore and Saudi Arabia on conditions of co-investment and co-sharing of research results.

(c) Science and Technology (S&T) Agreements are existing with following 81 countries/ international entities with the objectives of development of co-operation in the fields of science and technology on the basis of equality and mutual advantages; reciprocal access to the activities of research and technological development; exchange of information, which may affect cooperative activities; effective protection of intellectual property.