

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5307
ANSWERED ON:09.05.2012
TALKS WITH QATAR
Ponnam Shri Prabhakar;Siricilla Shri Rajaiah

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Prime Minister has held talks with the heads of Qatar recently in Delhi; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the outcome thereof ?

Answer

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

(a) Yes.

(b) His Highness Sheikh Hamad Bin Khalifa Al Thani, the Emir of Qatar paid a state visit to India from April 8-10, 2012. Delegation level talks co-chaired by Hon'ble Prime Minister and HH the Emir of Qatar were held on April 09, 2012. The meeting discussed issues of mutual interest and reviewed bilateral relations and utilization of existing bilateral institutional mechanisms in various sectors to further strengthen them especially in the sectors of Hydrocarbons, Infra-structure, Investments, Education, Culture, Science & Technology, Civil Aviation and Welfare of the Indian Community. Six Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs)/Agreements were signed after the bilateral talks viz.,

- i) MOU on Cooperation in Oil & Gas
- ii) Agreement on Cooperation in the field of Legal Affairs
- iii) Exchange programme on Cooperation in the Field of Education
- iv) Agreement in the Field of Cultural Cooperation
- v) MOU between Reserve Bank of India and Qatar Central Bank
- vi) MOU between India Trade Promotion Organisation and Qatar Tourism Authority on Cooperation in the field of organizing Exhibitions.