

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1432
ANSWERED ON:06.03.2013
BILATERAL RELATIONS WITH JAPAN
Tomar Shri Narendra Singh

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Prime Minister has recently postponed/called off his official visit to Japan and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (b) the current status of bilateral relations with Japan including the details of the agreements signed during the last three years;
- (c) whether the Government has sought assistance of Japan in the field of nuclear energy; and
- (d) if so, the response of Japan in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) Prime Minister was scheduled to undertake an official visit to Japan from 15-18 November 2012 at the invitation of the Prime Minister of Japan. Keeping in view that the dissolution of the Japanese Lower House of Parliament would be announced on 16 November 2012, the visit of Prime Minister to Japan was postponed.

(b) India and Japan established a Strategic and Global Partnership in 2006. A mechanism of Annual Summits between Prime Ministers of the two countries has been in place since then. The External Affairs Minister and his Japanese counterpart also meet annually for a Strategic Dialogue and a Ministerial level Economic Dialogue. Japan has assisted in several unique projects in India like the Delhi Metro, the Western Dedicated Freight Corridor and the Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corridor. The India-Japan Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement was signed in February 2011 and came into effect on 1 August 2011. The Agreement between India and Japan on Social Security and a Memorandum on Cooperation in the Rare Earths Industry in India were signed in November 2012. The 2008 Joint Declaration on Security Cooperation and the 2009 Action Plan to Advance Security Cooperation provide the framework for bilateral security cooperation. India and Japan have a number of areas of functional cooperation, including science and technology, energy and people-to-people exchanges, and share wide-ranging interests in regional and global issues.

(c) & (d) The Government of Japan announced its decision to commence negotiations with the Government of India on an Agreement for Cooperation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy on 25 June 2010. Three rounds of formal negotiations have been held.