

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2697

ANSWERED ON:13.03.2013

TIES WITH NEIGHBOURS

Reddy Shri Modugula Venugopala ;Shetkar Shri Suresh Kumar

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister has called for friendly ties with neighbouring countries; and

(b) If so, the details thereof and the response received so far?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) The Government accords top priority to India's relations with the neighbouring countries and is committed, at the highest levels, to strengthen friendly ties with them covering various aspects including political, security, economic, cultural, trade and investment etc.

Our bilateral aid and assistance and capacity-building programmes have contributed to further cementing these relations. As an active development partner, India is involved in various projects in these countries.