GOVERNMENT OF INDIA EXTERNAL AFFAIRS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2962 ANSWERED ON:10.12.2014 REVIEW OF 1950 TREATY Venkatesh Babu Shri T.G.

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Nepal propose to review the 1950 Treaty;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any steps are being taken to further strengthen understanding and to promote cooperation between the two countries; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS [GEN. (DR) V.K. SINGH (RETD)]

(a) & (b) As stated in the Joint Press Statement issued after Prime Minister's visit to Nepal on 4 August 2014, the two sides agreed to review, adjust and update the Treaty of Peace and Friendship of 1950 and other bilateral agreements. The two Prime Ministers also welcomed the decision of the Joint Commission to direct the Foreign Secretaries of the two countries to meet and discuss specific proposal to revise the Treaty of Peace and Friendship of 1950, which the Government of Nepal agreed to provide at the earliest. Both sides agreed that the revised Treaty should reflect the current realities and aim to further consolidate and expand the multifaceted and deep rooted relationships in a forward looking manner.

(c) & (d) Prime Minister has visited Nepal twice, in August and November 2014, within a short span of 4 months demonstrating the high priority attached to strengthening, understanding and promoting cooperation between the two countries. Prime Minister's visit to Nepal on 3-4 August 2014 came after a gap of 17 years. His second visit from 25-27 November 2014 saw the signing of 10 agreements. External Affairs Minister visited Nepal from 25-27 July 2014 and co-Chaired the third meeting of the India-Nepal Joint Commission, after a gap of 23 years. There are more than 25 bilateral mechanisms covering the entire gamut of bilateral relations, that are meeting regularly.