

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:339
ANSWERED ON:25.02.2015
POLITICAL INSTABILITY IN NEPAL
Adityanath Shri Yogi;Kateel Shri Nalin Kumar

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has made any assessment of the reported political instability in Nepal and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the said situation is likely to pose any threat to India's national security and if so, the details and preventive steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard; and
- (c) the efforts made by India to restore peace, political stability and tranquility in the region?

Answer

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

(a) Despite considerable political progress since the election, in April 2008, of Nepal's first Constituent Assembly (CA), which declared Nepal a Federal Democratic Republic, political consensus on drafting of the Constitution in Nepal is still awaited. More than one year has passed since the convening of the second Constituent Assembly in January 2014. The main issues before the CA include federalism, form of government, electoral system and structure of the judiciary. Currently the interim Constitution of 2007 is in force.

(b) India believes in a shared future for our neighbourhood. A democratic, stable and prosperous Nepal is in our mutual interest. At the same time, the political choices that Nepal makes for itself is its internal matter. We believe that solutions and consensus among Nepalese political parties would come through dialogue among themselves.

(c) Our engagement with Nepal is broad-based. We extend our full moral and material support to Nepal in its transition to a constitutional federal democratic republic and a prosperous economy. It is our expectation that Nepalese leaders will continue to work together in the final stage of the peace process, in drawing up a Constitution that honours past understandings as well as the mandate of the elections.