

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-2619
ANSWERED ON- 23/03/2023

GOVERNMENT'S AID UNDER DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP PORTFOLIO

2619. SHRI VIKRAMJIT SINGH SAHNEY

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :-

- (a) whether development partnership portfolio, comprising Government's "aid-heads", continues to be the priority of budgetary allocation as it aggregated 32.40 per cent of the total budget allocation of the Ministry, if so, details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (b) the amount of funds allocated and utilized under 'aid-heads' given to different countries during the last five years, year-wise, country-wise; and
- (c) whether the largest share of aid portfolio has been granted to Bhutan with the allocation of ₹ 2,400 crore, which constituted 41.04 per cent of the Ministry's development assistance, if so, reasons therefor?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

(SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN)

(a) The budgetary allocation of Ministry of External Affairs is aligned with its foreign policy objectives and expansive global development partnership foot-print of the country. Development Partnership forms an important pillar of country's global outreach & foreign policy, exporting Indian products, projects, expertise & partnership. It comprises Ministry's Aid-Heads and continues to be a priority of this FY's budgetary allocation, aggregated at 32.40% of total budget allocation. In-line with India's 'Neighborhood First' policy, largest share of our Aid portfolio is towards Aid to Bhutan & Aid to Nepal. Allocation of resources towards development projects in Indian Ocean region with significant outlays towards Aid to Maldives & Mauritius reflects our policy priority. We continue to be steadfast in our development partnership commitments in our extended neighbourhood, viz, Aid to Afghanistan, Aid to Eurasia and also committed to our focus & partnership with Africa and Latin America.

(b) As per Annexure I

(c) As a part of our Neighbourhood First Policy, largest share of Aid portfolio is towards Aid-to-Bhutan, with an allocation in BE 2023-24 of Rs 2400 Cr. Bhutan has traditionally been the largest recipient of our financial assistance, reflecting the strength of our unique & multi-dimensional Strategic Partnership. India is implementing not only large infrastructure projects such as hydroelectric plants, railways and power transmission lines, housing, roads,

waterways, ports, and bridges; but also many small-scale but high-visibility grass-roots level projects viz. HICDPs (*known as High Impact Community Development Programmes*); as well as training and capacity-building programmes. India successfully launched jointly developed satellite for Bhutan in November 2022 making it a historical milestone in our Strategic Partnership.

Annexure I
(Amount in Rs crore)

Aid to Countries	2018-19			2019-20			2020-21			2021-22			2022-23		
	BE	RE	Actuals	BE	RE	Actuals	BE	RE	Actuals	BE	RE	Actuals	BE	RE	Actuals*
Bangladesh	175.00	120.00	131.81	175.00	150.00	137.68	200.00	125.00	177.98	200.00	300.00	219.53	300.00	170.00	106.66
Bhutan	2650.00	2510.00	2480.48	2801.79	2674.51	2667.61	2884.65	2261.18	2097.67	3004.95	1755.23	1646.56	2266.24	2500.15	1196.97
Nepal	650.00	750.00	763.39	1050.00	1200.00	1198.25	800.00	880.00	879.10	992.00	650.00	446.42	750.00	425.00	280.33
Sri Lanka	150.00	165.00	168.77	250.00	205.00	201.08	200.00	75.00	44.80	200.00	50.00	48.55	200.00	75.00	45.41
Maldives	125.00	440.00	439.39	400.00	150.00	134.40	300.00	175.00	160.19	250.00	260.00	246.09	360.00	400.00	142.13
Myanmar	280.00	370.00	376.22	400.00	170.00	162.29	300.00	350.00	347.05	400.00	600.00	598.25	600.00	400.00	351.01
Other Developing Countries	115.00	125.00	124.98	150.00	150.00	138.23	120.00	100.00	117.13	130.00	90.00	83.70	150.00	135.00	83.30
African Countries	200.00	330.00	339.97	450.00	450.00	497.81	350.00	225.00	226.28	300.00	200.00	141.91	250.00	160.00	109.70
Eurasian Countries	30.00	25.00	29.51	45.00	45.00	29.90	45.00	45.00	45.42	100.00	100.00	83.95	140.00	65.00	53.46
Latin American Countries	20.00	10.00	10.02	15.00	10.00	12.15	20.00	22.00	11.78	40.00	55.00	37.70	40.00	7.00	1.05
Afghanistan	325.00	470.00	469.97	400.00	400.00	408.12	400.00	350.00	348.82	350.00	200.00	166.36	200.00	350.00	188.34
Mongolia	5.00	2.00	0.62	5.00	2.00	0.00	2.00	0.58	0.48	2.00	2.00	0.00	12.00	2.50	0.00
Seychelles	300.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	50.00	24.50	140.00	90.00	90.28	160.00	20.00	18.46	14.06	6.45	4.91
Mauritius	350.00	660.00	660.00	1100.00	1100.00	1100.00	1025.00	650.00	652.06	900.00	900.00	839.15	900.00	575.00	427.60

*up to January 2023