

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-558
ANSWER ON- 24/07/2025

VULNERABILITY OF NORTH-EASTERN STATES

558. MS. SUSHMITA DEV

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

- (a) whether Government has taken cognisance of the recent remark by the Chief Advisor of Bangladesh regarding the North-eastern States as 'landlocked' during his visit to China, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether these remarks were officially protested or taken up diplomatically by India, considering their potential to undermine India's sovereignty and strategic interests; and
- (c) whether Government is monitoring the growing strategic engagement between Pakistan, Bangladesh and China, including collaborative infrastructure projects, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
(SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH)

(a) & (b) The Government of India is aware of recent public references made by the Chief Adviser of the interim government of Bangladesh pertaining to connectivity and access of India's North-eastern region. The North-eastern region is well connected to the rest of the country through multiple modes of transport. The Government of India continues to take all necessary measures to further enhance the existing connectivity for the overall development of the North East, including maritime connectivity. The Government engages regularly with the interim Government of Bangladesh on matters of mutual interest and sensitivities.

(c) India's relationship with Bangladesh is independent of its relationship with third countries. The Government closely monitors developments having a bearing on India's national interest and continues to take all necessary measures to safeguard and strengthen it.
