

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO- 2146
ANSWERED ON- 18/12/2025

BILATERAL TIES WITH BHUTAN

2146. SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA

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

- (a) the purpose of ten new Project-Tied Assistance (PTA) projects with Bhutan;
- (b) the specific sectors these projects cover and their expected outcomes;
- (c) whether Government has given an assistance of ₹750 crore towards Bhutan's Economic Stimulus Programme (ESP) and ₹100 crore as Programme Grant; and
- (d) if so, the utilization status of these funds and their impact on Bhutan's economic recovery?

ANSWER

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

(a to d) India's development support to Bhutan is an important pillar of our close bilateral ties. GoI has committed support of INR 10,000 Crore for Bhutan's 13th Five Year Plan (FYP) period (2024-2029) for Project Tied Assistance (PTA) projects, High Impact Community Development Projects (HICDP), Economic Stimulus Programme (ESP) and Programme Grant.

In the 4th Development Cooperation Talks held in New Delhi on 30 June 2025, the second tranche of 10 new PTA projects amounting to INR 1113 Crore across sectors such as healthcare, connectivity, urban infrastructure and livestock were approved.

GoI has so far released INR 1000 Crore towards Economic Stimulus Programme, which is being implemented by the Royal Government of Bhutan (RGoB) to boost domestic production, create new businesses, revitalize existing enterprises, generate employment opportunities, and increase tourist arrivals. GoI has also released till date INR 150 Crore of direct budgetary support to Bhutan as Programme Grant.

The RGoB has stated that the successful implementation of the 13th FYP will enhance the economy and create meaningful opportunities for the youth. The RGoB has conveyed their sincere appreciation and gratitude to the Government of India for its generous support for the 13th FYP of Bhutan.
