

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2623
TO BE ANSWERED ON 03.01.2018

RELATIONS WITH NEPAL AND BHUTAN

2623. SHRI PREM DAS RAI:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state the details of steps taken by the Government to utilise the accessibility advantage of Sikkim in diplomatic and trade relations with Nepal and Bhutan?

ANSWER

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

To harness traditional linkages and to enhance economic, trade and people to people connectivity of Sikkim as well as other Indian states bordering Nepal and Bhutan, the representatives of State Governments are regularly consulted in discussing ways and means to advance India's unique and multi-faceted ties, including economic and development cooperation and people to people ties, with Nepal and Bhutan.

Products originating in Sikkim such as pharmaceuticals, foodstuff are exported to Bhutan, and PET items exported to Nepal through designated trade routes. A number of students from Nepal and Bhutan study in educational institutions in Sikkim. Besides trade, tourism and people to people linkages, India and Nepal are discussing cooperation in area of organic farming, which is an area of interest to Sikkim.
