GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.87 TO BE ANSWERED ON 18.07.2018

PM's VISIT

87. SHRIMATI POONAMBEN MAADAM:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Prime Minister (PM) has visited three South East Asian countries recently;
- if so, the details of agreements signed during the said visits, country-wise, and the benefits accrued/likely to accrue from above agreements;
- (c) whether defence was a priority issue in the aforementioned visits with regard to Indian Navy, coordination, logistics and services support;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the extent of success likely to be achieved in establishing solidarity with these countries especially keeping a view of China strategically?

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

- (a) Yes, Prime Minister visited Indonesia, Malaysia and Singapore from 29 May to 02 June 2018.
- (b) Nine Government to Government agreements were signed during Prime Minister's visit to Indonesia. These include Agreement for Cooperation in the field of Defence, Framework Agreement on Cooperation in the exploration and uses of outer space for peaceful purposes, MoU on Scientific and Technological Cooperation, MoU on Technical Cooperation in Railways Sector, MoU on Health Cooperation, MoU on Pharmaceutical, Biological and Cosmetics Regulatory Functions, MoU on Policy Dialogue, MoU between Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration (LBSNA) of India and National Institute of Public Administration of Indonesia (NIPA) and Plan of Activities to celebrate 70 years of Diplomatic Relations between India and Indonesia in the year 2019-20. These agreements are expected to enhance our collaboration with Indonesia in the areas mentioned above.

With Singapore, eight agreements were signed and exchanged during the visit of Prime Minister and these include: Conclusion of Second Review of Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement, Mutual Recognition Agreement on Nursing, Implementation Agreement between Indian Navy and Singapore Navy on Logistic Support, an Agreement between Indian Computer Emergency Response Team and the Singapore Computer Emergency Response Team to cooperate in the field of Cyber Security, MoU between Narcotics Control Bureau of India and Singaporean Central Narcotics Bureau to Combat Illicit Trafficking of Narcotic Drug, Agreement between Ministry of Personnel of India and Public Service Division of the Republic of Singapore for Cooperation in the field of Personnel Management and Public Administration, Agreement between Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance, Government of India and Monetary Authority of Singapore on Constitution of Joint Working Group on Fintech between India and Singapore and an MoU between NITI Aayog and Singapore Cooperation Enterprise on Cooperation in the field of Planning. These agreements are expected to enhance our collaboration with Singapore in the areas mentioned above.

(c) to (e) India has strong strategic, political and cultural relations with all ASEAN countries. Indonesia, Singapore and Malaysia are India's strategic partners. Defence and security cooperation is one of the focus areas in our bilateral relations.
