

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-2866
ANSWERED ON- 17/03/2023

NORTH-SOUTH TRANSPORT CORRIDOR

2866. SHRI JAGANNATH SARKAR

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

- (a) the details of International North-South Transport Corridor; and
- (b) whether it holds any diplomatic, economic and political significance to India, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

(SMT. MEENAKASHI LEKHI)

(a & b) The International North-South Transport Corridor (INSTC) is an important initiative taken by India, Russia and Iran by signing an Inter-Governmental Agreement on 12th September 2000, to enhance trade and transport connectivity among countries along its route.

At present, there are 13 Members of INSTC, namely -India, Iran, Russia, Azerbaijan, Armenia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkey, Ukraine, Belarus, Oman and Syria. Bulgaria has joined as an Observer State.

The INSTC is a multi-modal, cost and time effective alternate route to the conventional deep sea Suez Canal route from India to Northern and Western Europe. It has the potential to enhance India's connectivity with Central Asia and Eurasian Region and vice versa, taking into account the geo-strategic and economic importance of all the involved countries.
