

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-4004
ANSWERED ON- 24/03/2023

ACT EAST POLICY

4004. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR

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

- (a) the steps taken by the Government to extend development cooperation to its neighbours to assist them in areas such as trade, development and connectivity;
- (b) the main pillars/salient features of India's Act-East policy introduced by the Government; and
- (c) the details of major infrastructure projects being implemented by the Government in neighbouring countries?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

(SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN)

(a to c) Under the Neighbourhood First Policy, development cooperation is an important component of our engagement with neighbouring countries with specific focus to improve the bilateral engagement covering all facets of socio-economic development including trade and connectivity. India's development assistance is based on the needs of the partner countries and is geared towards responding to as many of the requests received from these countries as technically and financially feasible. The main instruments of India's development assistance include Lines of Credit (LOC), Grant assistance, High Impact Community Development Projects (HICDP), Technical Consultancy, Disaster Relief and Humanitarian aid, as well as capacity-building programmes under Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation Programme (ITEC). Indian expertise is showcased in project planning and implementation in a wide range of areas covering both infrastructure development as well as socio-economic development. The details of major infrastructure projects being implemented by the Government in neighbouring countries under LoC and Grant in Aid are placed at **Annexure -I and Annexure-II** respectively.

The Act East Policy focuses on the extended neighbourhood in the Indo-Pacific region, with ASEAN as its core. The objective of Act East Policy is to promote economic cooperation, cultural ties and develop strategic relationships with countries in the Indo-Pacific region through continuous engagement at bilateral, regional and multilateral levels, thereby providing enhanced connectivity in its broadest sense, including political, economic, cultural and people-people relations.

Details of major infrastructure projects under Line of Credit (LoC) being implemented by the Government in neighbouring countries.

Sl. No.	Country	Project
1	Bangladesh	Upgradation of Mongla Port
2	Nepal	Multiple road projects
3	Nepal	Modi-Lekhnath Transmission Line Project
4	Maldives	Great Maldives Connectivity Project
5	Maldives	Development of Sports Infrastructure
6	Maldives	Construction of Cricket Stadium Complex in Maldives
7	Myanmar	Yenwe and Kunchaung irrigation scheme
8	Sri Lanka	Upgrading railway track from Maho-Anuradapura-Omanthai

Details of Grant in Aid projects being implemented by the Government in neighbouring countries.

S.No	Country	Project
1.	Bangladesh	Akhaura-Agartala Rail Link
2.	Bhutan	Punatsangchhu-I (1200 MW HEP)
3.	Bhutan	Punatsangchhu-II (1020 MW HEP)
4.	Maldives	Construction of Ministry of Defense (MoD) Building
5.	Maldives	Greater Male Connectivity Project
6.	Myanmar	Construction of 69 Bridges on TKK road in Myanmar
7.	Myanmar	Kaladan Multi Modal transit Project.
8.	Myanmar	Upgradation of Kalewa-Yargi Road section in Myanmar.
9.	Nepal	Construction of Integrated Check Post at Nepalgunj in Nepal
10.	Nepal	Nepal-Bharat Maitri Polytechnic at Hetauda
11.	Nepal	National Police Academy, Panauti, Nepal
12.	Nepal	India-Nepal Cross Border Rail Link: Jayanagar-Bardibas
13.	Nepal	India-Nepal Cross Border Rail Link: Jogbani-Biratnagar
14.	Sri Lanka	India Housing Projects Phase-III and IV
