

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-3390
TO BE ANSWERED ON 05/08/2022**

RELATION BETWEEN INDIA AND NEPAL

3390. SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether recently a high level delegation from India visited Nepal in May, 2022;
- (b) If so, the details thereof including the details of agreements signed and proposals made for new projects in Nepal;
- (c) whether the leaders of the two countries held discussion on issues related with sharing borders with China and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the present status of India's relations with Nepal in the wake of increasing influence of China in neighbouring countries?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

(SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN)

(a) to (b) Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi paid an official visit to Lumbini, Nepal on 16 May 2022, at the invitation of the Prime Minister of Nepal, Rt. Hon'ble Sher Bahadur Deuba. Both the Prime Ministers discussed specific initiatives and ideas to further strengthen India-Nepal cooperation in various sectors, including culture, economy, trade, connectivity, energy and development partnership. The visit provided further momentum to the multifaceted partnership between the two countries. List of MoUs/Agreements concluded during the visit:

- (i) MoU between Indian Council of Cultural Relations and Lumbini Buddhist University on the establishment of Dr. Ambedkar Chair for Buddhist Studies.
- (ii) MoU between Indian Council of Cultural Relations (ICCR) and CNAS, Tribhuvan University on the establishment of ICCR Chair of Indian Studies.
- (iii) MoU between Indian Council of Cultural Relations (ICCR) and Kathmandu University (KU) on the establishment of the ICCR Chair of Indian Studies.

(iv) MoU between Kathmandu University, Nepal and Indian Institute of Technology Madras (IIT-M), India.

(v) Letter of Agreement (LoA) between Kathmandu University, Nepal and Indian Institute of Technology Madras (IIT-M), India for joint degree program at Master's level.

(vi) Agreement between SJVN Ltd and Nepal Electricity Authority for development and implementation of Arun 4 Project.

(c) to (d) India has age-old, multifaceted partnership with Nepal, which is under-pinned by close people-to-people relations. Government remains fully committed to strengthening and deepening its multi-faceted bilateral partnership with the Government and people of Nepal for the mutual benefit and progress of both countries. India's close ties with Nepal stand firmly on their own. Government closely follows all developments having a bearing on India's national interests and takes all necessary measures to pursue and safeguard these.
