

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1695
TO BE ANSWERED ON 27.07.2016**

CHANGE IN FOREIGN POLICY

†1695. SHRIMATI KAMLA DEVI PAATLE:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to make changes in its foreign policy and strengthen our relations with other countries especially neighbouring countries; and**
- (b) if so, the details thereof?**

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b) The Government has taken steps to revitalise our traditional ties with foreign countries, re-energise our strategic and commercial relations with existing and new partners and reconnect with NRI and PIO populations abroad. The importance of our immediate periphery in our foreign policy is reflected in the 'Neighbourhood first' policy of the Government. High level visits to all countries in the region, sometimes after a gap of several years or decades have imparted new energy to bilateral ties. Our engagement has focused on greater connectivity, cooperation in all domains and broader people-to-people contacts.
