

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.681
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20.7.2016**

SHANGHAI COOPERATION ORGANISATION

681. SHRIMATI MEENAKSHI LEKHI:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of benefits that might accrue to India by becoming a member of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO); and**
- (b) whether there is proposal for military and diplomatic engagement with other member States of the SCO and if so, the details thereof?**

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
(SHRI M.J. AKBAR)**

- (a) India's membership of SCO will provide opportunities for cooperation on economic and security matters including counter-terrorism. SCO also has potential to enhance connectivity options and energy security for India.**
- (b) India has diplomatic relations with all the SCO member countries. SCO has regular discussions on wide range of issues. It also organizes joint anti-terrorist exercises and facilitates sharing of information and best practices on combating terrorism.**
