

The Extradition Treaties/Arrangement concerned provide a legal framework for seeking extradition of persons of any nationality who are wanted in India for offences involving imprisonment of at least one year and vice-versa. Such agreements strengthen the friendly relations between India and the countries concerned by providing the legal basis for bilateral cooperation in dealing with elements acting against the national interest of both countries.

Formalities for Russian investment in India

3921. SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Russian authorities have raised their concerns with Government about formalities for Russian investment in India; and

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED): (a) and (b) Yes. During the recent high level interactions with the Russian side, the issue of promotion of new investments and protection of earlier investments made has been discussed. The Russian side has specifically voiced concerns regarding large scale investments made by Russian firms in the telecom sector. In this context, the Russian side has suggested amending the Bilateral Investment Promotion and Protection Agreement of 1994.

Bilateral Investment Promotion and Protection Agreements with various countries including Russia are currently under review by the Ministry of Finance.

Visits by foreign Prime Ministers to India

†3922. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Prime Ministers and heads of various countries who visited India during the year 2012-13; and

(b) the details of the agreements signed between India and those countries, whose Prime Ministers and Heads of the Nations visited India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI PRENEET KAUR): (a) A total of 10 State Visits, 18 Official/Working

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.