

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS [GENERAL (RETD.) V.K. SINGH]: (a) Yes. Both sides held the third meeting of the India-Nepal Joint Commission at the level of Foreign Ministers on 26 July 2014 in Kathmandu to review the ties between the two countries.

(b) Yes. The Joint Commission reiterated the need for reviewing, adjusting and updating the Treaty of Peace and Friendship 1950, reflecting the current realities. It directed the Foreign Secretaries to make necessary recommendations. Both sides also stressed the need to complete necessary formalities to enable entry into force of the Bilateral Investment Protection and Promotion Agreement (BIPPA).

#### **Building of Dharmashala in Nepal**

†3879. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the declaration of building a Dharmashala in the premises of Pashupatinath Mandir in Kathmandu, the capital of Nepal was made by Government of India in 2002, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the task of getting a Dharmashala built has not been performed by Government of India so far; and

(c) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor and whether the present Government proposes to get this task performed soon, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS [GENERAL (RETD.) V.K. SINGH]: (a) to (c) A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for construction of the Nepal-Bharat Maitri Pashupati Dharmashala in Kathmandu was signed between the Government of India (GoI) and Pashupati Area Development Trust (PADT) on March 10, 2004.

After signing of the MOU, the process for appointing a Consultant for preparing the Detailed Project Report (DPR) of the Dharmashala was initiated and the Consultant was appointed in November 2004. The DPR prepared by the Consultant was examined and shared with PADT in February 2005. The tender for selection of Consultant for construction of the Dharmshala was issued in November 2006 and the Consultant was appointed in July 2007. The design of the Dharmashala building prepared by the Consultant was submitted to the Kathmandu Metropolitan City Office in November 2007 for permission,

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

which was received on June 30, 2008. During 2008-2011, the project could not be taken up due to several factors including the untoward attack on Indian Priests at Pashupatinath Temple. At the request of PADT in November 2011, Notice Inviting Tenders for pre-qualification of contractors for construction of the Dharmashala at Pashupatinath Temple were published in December 2012 and pre-qualification of contractors completed in June 2014. Financial bids have been invited from the pre-qualified contractors for construction of the Dharmashala.

#### **Revival plan for Scooters India Limited**

3880. DR. CHANDAN MITRA: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has prepared a revival plan for Scooters India Limited (SIL); if so, the main features of the revival plan;
- (b) whether Government has identified any strategic partner for SIL, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken by Government for prompt and time bound execution of the revival plan for SIL?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI RADHAKRISHNAN P.) (a) Yes, Sir. A revival scheme for Scooters India Limited (SIL) was approved by Cabinet in its meeting held on 31.01.2013.

The main features of the revival plan *inter-alia* include Infusion of fund of ₹ 90.38 crore (₹ 70.38 crore as equity for capex and ₹ 20 crore as interest free plan loan for working capital); conversion of plan/non-plan loan of ₹ 85.21 crore into equity, waiver of interest of ₹ 26.37 crore; Enhancement of superannuation age from 58 years to 60 years in relaxation of DPE guidelines and implementation of 2007 pay revision as per DPE guidelines.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) In pursuance of the Cabinet decision dated 31.01.2013 and orders passed by BIFR, financial sanctions for infusion of funds to the tune of ₹ 31.90 crore out of ₹ 70.38 crore as equity, provision of ₹ 20 crores as interest free plan loan for working capital, waiver of interest of ₹ 26.37 crore, conversion of plan/non-plan loan of ₹ 85.21 crore into equity etc. have already been issued by the Government.