

Discussion on reconciliation in Sri Lanka

2342. SHRI S. THANGAVELU: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether India and Sri Lanka had discussed about the measures Sri Lanka was taking about accountability and reconciliation on the island nation, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether India had asked the Sri Lanka to expedite the reconciliation measures, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS [GENERAL (RETD.) V. K. SINGH]: (a) and (b) Government has conveyed to the Government of Sri Lanka, on a number of occasions, the urgent and imperative need for expeditious steps towards genuine national reconciliation and called for effective and time bound implementation of the constructive recommendations contained in the Lessons Learnt and Reconciliation Commission (LLRC) report.

Issues regarding the on-going reconciliation process in Sri Lanka were also discussed during the recent bilateral meetings between PM and President of Sri Lanka in New Delhi on 27 May 2014 and EAM and External Affairs Minister of Sri Lanka in New Delhi on 11 July 2014.

Progress of trilateral road

2343. SHRI MUKUT MITHI : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the status of progress of trilateral road proposed to be built in India, Myanmar and Thailand;

(b) the length of the total roads with the country-wise break up in terms of length, cost and progress so far; and

(c) the deadline set for completion of the project and measures, if any, to speed up the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS [GENERAL (RETD.) V. K. SINGH]: (a) and (b) The length of the Trilateral Highway is approximately 1360 kms. The Trilateral Highway's route will be Moreh (India) - Tamu (Myanmar) - Kalewa - Yagyi - Monywa - Mandalay - Meiktila - Nay Pyi Taw - Payagyi - Theinzayat - Thaton - Hpa'an - Kawkaik - Myawaddy (Myanmar) - Mae

Sot (Thailand). In respect of India's involvement with the project, India has undertaken to upgrade the Kalewa-Yagyi road section of the Trilateral Highway (approximately 120 kms.) to highway standard and construction of 71 bridges in the Tamu - Kalewa section. A consultant, M/s EGIS India Consulting Engineers Private Ltd., has been appointed on January 28, 2014 for preparation of a Feasibility Report for the Kalewa - Yagyi road section. A consultant, M/s IRCON Ltd., has been appointed on February 12, 2014 for preparation of a Feasibility Report for the construction of 71 bridges in the Tamu-Kalewa section of the Trilateral Highway. These two Feasibility Reports will provide the broad contours of the project including alignment, specifications, design, estimated cost and timeline for completion of these projects.

(c) The two Feasibility Reports will provide the broad contours of the projects including specifications, design, estimated cost and timeline for completion of these projects. Based on the two Feasibility Reports, implementation of these projects will be finalized in consultation with the Government of Myanmar.

Relaxing of rules in Nuclear Liability Law

†2344. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether American Company Westinghouse core has requested to relax the rules related to compensation in Section 17 (B) of Nuclear Liability Law;

(b) if so, whether Government has accepted the request of America; and

(c) if so, whether Indian interests are likely to be harmed by extending relaxation, and if not, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS [GENERAL (RETD.) V. K. SINGH]: (a) and (b) The Civil Liability for Nuclear Damage Act, 2010 aims to ensure prompt compensation for victims in the unlikely event of a nuclear incident. Section 4 of the Civil Liability for Nuclear Damage Act, 2010 channels the liability for nuclear damage to the operator of the nuclear installation. The operator of the nuclear installation, after paying the compensation for nuclear damage, shall have a right of recourse against the supplier in accordance with Section 17 of the said Act. Some international suppliers, including Westinghouse of the US, have expressed concerns regarding Section 17 of the 2010 Act. At present, there is no proposal to amend the provisions of the Civil Liability for Nuclear Damage Act, 2010.

(c) Does not arise.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.