

sub-tropical fruits, bee-keeping etc. There is effective coordination between the two countries on these collaborations. 27 Centres of Excellence are at various stages of development across different States. Five of them have already been completed and commissioned.

Consensual solution to issue of Italian marines

2873. SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN:

SHRI D. RAJA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Italian Government has sought a consensual solution to the long pending issue of the two Italian marines facing murder charges in a case of killing of two Indian fishermen of the coast of Kerala in 2012; and

(b) if so, the status of case as of now and the reaction of the Indian Government to the proposal of the Italian Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ):

(a) Yes.

(b) The matter is currently *sub-judice* in the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India. The proposal of the Italian Government is at present under examination in the Government.

PM's meeting with Sri Lankan counterpart

2874. SHRIMATI SASIKALA PUSHPA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Prime Minister had met the Sri Lankan Prime Minister recently, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the issues of Sri Lankan Tamils' rehabilitation and attack on Indian Tamil fishermen were taken up during the discussions; and

(c) if so, the details thereof, and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ):

(a) to (c) Prime Minister met the President of Sri Lanka, Mahinda Rajapaksa for bilateral discussions on the sidelines of the 18th SAARC Summit in Kathmandu, Nepal on 26 November, 2014. The two leaders discussed all issues of mutual concern.