

Agreements during Prime Minister's visit to Japan

2573. SHRI DEREK O' BRIEN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the purpose of the recent three day visit of the Prime Minister to Japan;
- (b) the details of the deals and agreements concluded during the visit; and
- (c) the impact of the deals and agreements on Indo-Japan relations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS [GENERAL (RETD.) V.K. SINGH]: (a) to (c) Prime Minister visited Japan from 11-12 November 2016 and met Prime Minister Shinzo Abe for the Annual Summit Meeting. During the visit, the Prime Minister had an audience with His Majesty the Emperor, and interacted with the Japanese leadership and captains of the industry. This visit will further enhance the bilateral 'Special Strategic and Global Partnership'. The details of the agreements/MOUs signed during the visit is given in the Statement (*See* below). These agreements/MOUs will strengthen the political, defence and strategic relations, economic and commercial linkages, and expand ties in the education, S&T and cultural spheres.

Statement

The details of the agreements/MOUs signed during the visit of Prime Minister to Japan

| Sl.No. | Title of Agreement/ MoU | Description |
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| 1. | Agreement Between the Government of The Republic of India and the Government of Japan for Cooperation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy: | The present Agreement provides for bilateral cooperation in the field of Nuclear Energy. This would provide for the development of nuclear power projects in India and thus strengthening of energy security of the country. The present agreement would open up the door for collaboration between Indian and Japanese industries in our Civil Nuclear programme. |

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| 2. | Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC) between the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship of India, Government of India and Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan, Government of Japan on the Manufacturing Skill Transfer Promotion Program | The above MoC envisages training 30,000 Indian youth in the Japanese styled manufacturing in the next 10 years. This would be achieved through the programmes of Japan-India Institute for Manufacturing (JIM) and the Japanese Endowed Courses (JEC) in select Engineering colleges. Japanese companies would be encouraged to set-up JIM by utilizing their CSR fund while JEC will be supported by Government of Japan through technical experts. Programmes under this MOC would contribute to 'Make in India' and 'Skill India'. |
| 3. | Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between ISRO and JAXA concerning cooperation in the Field of Outer Space | The present MoU provides for cooperation in satellite navigation, planetary exploration and space industry promotion; joint missions and studies; joint use of ground systems for mutual support; joint workshops and training; and personnel exchange. The MOU also provides for establishing JWG and sign Implementing Arrangements to carry out specific cooperative projects. |

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| 4. | MoU between Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES), Republic of India and The Japan Agency for Marine-Earth Science and Technology (JAMSTEC) on Mutual Collaboration in Marine and Earth Science and Technology | The MoU aims to promote cooperation in the areas of joint survey and research; exchange of scientific visits by researchers & experts; joint scientific seminars & workshops; exchange of information, data and studied results; and any other mutually agreed forms of cooperation. Agreements for cooperation in specific activities will be taken up by concerned agencies subsequent to signing of this MOU. |
| 5. | MoC between the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Government of India and Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of Japan in the Field of Agriculture and Food Related Industry | The above MOC has been envisioned to deepen the bilateral cooperation in the fields of agriculture and food industries that includes food value chain networking and protecting Geographical Indication (GI) of agriculture products. The MOC is a framework document which would later provide for specific agreements between concerned agencies on both sides. |
| 6. | MoU between National Investment and Infrastructure Fund Limited and Japan Overseas Infrastructure Investment Corporation for Transport and Urban Development | This Memorandum would enable cooperation between the two organizations promoting investment in infrastructure projects in railways and transportation; port terminals; |

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| | | toll roads; airport terminals; urban development; logistics; and any supporting industries for these sectors. Further, this MOU would also enable the two sides to explore opportunities to set up a NIIF-JOIN joint fund. |
| 7. | MoU between Textiles Committee, Ministry of Textiles, Gol and Japan Textiles Products Quality and Technology Centre (QTEC) in the Field of Textiles | MoU aims to improve quality of Indian Textiles for conformity assessment for Japanese market. It involves capacity building measures for the Textiles Committee and aligns the Indian Quality Control measures in line with Japanese market and technical standards. |
| 8. | MoC in the Field of Cultural Exchange between the Ministry of Culture, Government of India and the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, Government of Japan | The present MoC seeks to promote bilateral cooperation in the field of art and culture which includes exchange of exhibitions and personnel in performing and visual arts; cooperation in preserving the cultural heritage; exchange of exhibitions and experts from museums; and to promote people-to-people exchanges. The MoC also provides for sharing of experiences in the field of libraries with a view to promote library activities in both countries. |

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| 9. | MoC on Cooperation in Sports between Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, Government of India and Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, Government of Japan | The present MoC seeks to provide a framework for bilateral cooperation in the field of Sports ahead of the forthcoming Tokyo 2020 Olympics and Paralympics. Under this MoC the two sides would seek to promote training of athletes; training of coaches; programmes for sports science and anti-doping; programmes for developing sports education, sports infrastructure and management; and exchange visits of sports leaders, administrators, professionals and experts. Specific cooperative mechanism will be pursued by respective sports agencies in their specified areas of activities, subsequent to signing of this MoC. |
| 10. | MoU between the State Government of Gujarat and Hyogo Prefectural Government, Japan | The present MoU seeks to promote mutual cooperation between Gujarat and Hyogo in the fields of academics, business, cultural cooperation, disaster management and environmental protection. A steering committee to oversee the implementation of the MoU will also be constituted alongside identifying the agencies to carry out |

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| | | designated activities. Department of Industries and Mines of Government Gujarat and International Affairs Bureau of Hyogo Prefectural Government have been identified as the contact points for developing project activities under this MoU. |

Building of dams on tributaries of Brahmaputra

2574. SHRI SANJAY SETH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has ascertained the facts regarding the recent reports on China's plan to build dams on Brahmaputra tributaries on Chinese side, if so, the details in this regard;

(b) whether the issue was raised and discussed during bilateral summit meetings on the sidelines of recent BRICS meeting in Goa; and

(c) if so, the details of outcome and assurance from Chinese leadership, if any and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS [GENERAL (RETD.) V.K. SINGH]: (a) to (c) In September 2016, the Chinese authorities announced blocking of a tributary of the Yarlung Zangbo (Brahmaputra) River as part of a hydro project. The project, which is called the Lalho Project, is based on the Xiabuqu River in Xigaze (Tibet Autonomous Region). According to information available, the proposed reservoir is designed to store up to 295 million cubic meters of water to irrigate about 30,000 hectares of farmland. The project also proposes to have two power stations with a combined generation capacity of 42 megawatts. The Lalho project is approximately 1100 kms upstream of the entry point of the Brahmaputra River into India in Arunachal Pradesh. China's Ministry of Foreign Affairs has clarified that the reservoir capacity of the project is less than 0.02% of the average annual runoff of the Yarlung Zangbo (Brahmaputra) River.

Various issues relating to trans-border rivers, including construction of hydro-power dams, are discussed with China under the ambit of India-China Expert Level Mechanism