

Status of ITIR in Telangana

532. SHRI DHARMAPURI SRINIVAS: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of progress and the present status of IT Investment Region (ITIR) in Telangana;

(b) whether the Central Government has received any fresh representation, requesting for the release of necessary funds to the proposed IT Investment Region in the State;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the response of Government to such request; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Central Government to complete the project at an early date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI DHOTRE SANJAY SHAMRAO): (a) to (d) Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), Government of India *vide* notification dated 13.11.2013 had notified Information Technology Investment Region (ITIR) in Hyderabad at a project cost of ₹ 3275 crore. The developmental activities were to be carried out with financial assistance from various concerned Ministries of Government of India *viz*: Ministry of Railways, Ministry of Road, Transport and Highways and Ministry of Urban Development. The progress and issues related to implementation of the ITIR in Hyderabad was reviewed during the meeting held at MeitY on 11.01.2017 with representatives from the concerned Ministries and Department of Information Technology, Electronics and Communication, Government of Telangana. During the meeting, Government of Telangana was requested to submit requisite information to Ministry of Railways and Ministry of Road, Transport and Highways with intimation to Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology. Response from Government of Telangana is still awaited.

Impact of killing of Iranian General

533. SHRI SURESH PRABHU: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the impact of killing of Iranian General on India's strategic interests; and

(b) what are the steps taken by Government to tackle this incident with global players?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN): (a) and (b) India has been closely following developments in the aftermath of killing of a senior Iranian leader. Peace, stability and security in the West Asia region is of utmost importance to India. The Government immediately engaged with the leadership of various countries in the region and the West. India advocated restraint and emphasized on the need to take steps for deescalation of the situation by all the parties concerned.

NSA's visit to Sri Lanka

534. SHRI VAIKO: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Security Adviser visited Sri Lanka recently for talks with the President of Sri Lanka;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether talks to strengthen military ties, including supply of arms and ammunitions to Sri Lanka from India had been discussed and if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether any agreement was signed, if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether setting up of Maritime Research Coordination Centre was discussed, if so, the details thereof; and

(f) whether in the discussion of Coastguard cooperation, protection of Indian fishermen was also discussed, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN): (a) to (f) National Security Advisor of India Shri. Ajit Doval visited Sri Lanka on 18 January, 2020. He met Sri Lankan President Gotabaya Rajapaksa and discussed areas of bilateral cooperation including strengthening cooperation in counter terrorism and intelligence and security and economic development of the region, including the Indian Ocean. During the discussion, NSA stressed the importance of finalizing the Maritime Rescue Coordination Center assisted by India. NSA also urged for stronger cooperation between the Coastguards of India and Sri Lanka.

NSA also exchanged greetings over telephone with Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa, who was out of Colombo.