

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO - 2105

ANSWERED ON - 31/07/2026

**STRENGTHENING OF REGIONAL COOPERATION WITH NEIGHBOURING
COUNTRIES**

2105. SHRI PATHAN YUSUF

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether India has held bilateral and multilateral discussions with neighbouring countries to strengthen regional cooperation in trade, connectivity and security, if so, the details thereof;**
- (b) the details of major agreements signed with neighbouring countries during the last two years; and**
- (c) whether any new initiatives have been launched under India's "Neighbourhood First" policy if so, the details thereof and the expected benefits arising therefrom?**

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

(SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH)

(a) Yes, the Government regularly engages with countries in the neighbourhood on the full gamut of issues of mutual interest, including in trade, connectivity and security. Country-wise details are given in the attached Annexure I.

(b) Details of major agreements signed with neighbouring countries during the last two years are given in the attached Annexure II.

(c) Yes, several new initiatives have been launched under India's "Neighbourhood First" policy focused on strengthening security (both traditional and non-traditional including maritime and cyber security, climate security, disaster preparedness, food security and human security) and increasing connectivity (trade, energy, transport, digital and people-to-people connectivity); country-wise details are given in the attached Annexure III.

**LIST OF RECENT BILATERAL AND MULTILATERAL DISCUSSIONS WITH
NEIGHBOURING COUNTRIES TO STRENGTHEN REGIONAL COOPERATION
IN TRADE, CONNECTIVITY AND SECURITY**

(A) BANGLADESH

- (i) Foreign Office Consultations on 09 December 2024.**
- (ii) EAM visited Dhaka on 30 December 2025 to attend the funeral of Begum Khaleda Zia, when a meeting was held with then BNP Chairperson Tarique Rahman.**
- (iii) Hon'ble Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla visited Bangladesh on 17 February 2026 for the oath taking ceremony of Prime Minister Tarique Rahman.**
- (iv) Bangladesh Foreign Minister Khalilur Rahman visited India between 7-9 April 2026 and held meetings with EAM, NSA and Minister of Petroleum & Natural Gas.**
- (v) Technical meetings of institutional bilateral mechanisms pertaining to security and border management, water, trade, connectivity and development co-operation were held to discuss issues of mutual importance.**
- (vi) Prime Minister Narendra Modi attended the sixth BIMSTEC Summit held in Bangkok on 4 April 2025. On the sidelines of the Summit, a bilateral**

meeting was held with Professor Muhammad Yunus, Chief Adviser of Bangladesh.

(vii) A mid-term review of the BIMSTEC Master Plan for Transport Connectivity was held on 6 March 2025 to assess progress and strategise future steps for improving regional transport networks. During the Second BIMSTEC Ports Conclave held in Visakhapatnam in July 2025, the Government of India announced the establishment of a BIMSTEC Centre of Excellence in Sustainable Maritime Transport (BSMarTC) in Mumbai to support implementation and build technical capacity in Bangladesh and other member States.

(viii) The Fifth Meeting of BIMSTEC National Security Chiefs was held on 16 July 2026, including the participation of Prime Minister's Defence Adviser from Bangladesh. The meeting reviewed cooperation among member States in areas including regional security, disaster management, transport and trade connectivity, technology and people-to-people linkages.

(ix) Bangladesh's National Security Adviser attended the 7th Meeting of the National Security Advisers of the Colombo Security Conclave in November 2025, where member countries discussed regional security concerns.

(x) EAM held a meeting with Foreign Advisor Touhid Hossain on the sidelines of the 8th Indian Ocean Conference in Oman on 17 February 2025.

(B) MYANMAR

(i) Visit of the President of Myanmar, Min Aung Hlaing to India from 30 May to 03 June 2026;

(ii) Visit of the Minister of State for External Affairs, Shri Kirti Vardhan Singh to Myanmar from 08-11 April 2026 to attend the inauguration ceremony of the President of Myanmar;

(iii) The 23rd National Level Meeting chaired by Home Secretary was held in New Delhi on 07-08 July 2026;

(iv) Visits by senior military officials - including Defence Secretary Shri Rajesh Kumar Singh (25-26 September 2025), CNS Admiral Dinesh K. Tripathi (02-05 May 2026);

(v) Working level bilateral meetings have also been held periodically in the sectors of security and border management, trade, power, shipping, traditional medicines, India pharmacopoeia, etc.

(vi) Prime Minister Narendra Modi attended the sixth BIMSTEC Summit held in Bangkok on 4 April 2025. On the sidelines of the Summit, a bilateral meeting was held with the then Senior General Min Aung Hlaing;

(vii) Prime Minister Narendra Modi attended the 25th Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Summit held in Tianjin, China, from 31 August to 01

September 2025. A bilateral meeting with the then Senior General Min Aung Hlaing on the sidelines of the Summit;

(viii) Minister of President's Office, Tin Aung San participated in the Fifth Meeting of BIMSTEC National Security Chiefs held on 16 July 2026;

(ix) The Permanent Secretary of Department of Science and Technology, GoM participated in the AI Impact Summit which was hosted by India and was held in February 2026;

(x) Myanmar has also joined International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA) in January 2026.

(c) BHUTAN

(i) Official level talks for renewal/revision on the 2016 India-Bhutan Agreement on Trade, Commerce and Transit started with 1st technical level meeting on 18 March 2026.

(ii) Commerce Secretary Level Talks in September 2024 to discuss streamlining trade and related matters.

(iii) Joint Working Group Meeting on custom matters in April 2026.

(iv) Project Steering Committee Meeting for establishment of rail-links in November 2025.

(v) The India-Bhutan Secretary level meeting on Border Management and security on 16- 17 October 2025 in Thimphu.

(vi) Border Districts Coordination Meeting between Royal Govt. of Bhutan and State Govt of Assam took place on 24 September 2024.

(vii) Border Districts Coordination Meeting between Royal Govt. of Bhutan and State Govt of West Bengal took place on 30-31 January 2025.

(viii) On India-Bhutan Boundary Tasks, Government Level Meeting (GLM) took place on 6-7 March 2025; and Joint Technical Level Meeting (JTLM) took place on 19-20 May 2025.

(ix) Bhutan's Home Secretary participated in 5th Meeting of the BIMSTEC National Security Chiefs on July 16, 2026 in New Delhi.

(D) NEPAL

(i) Home Secretary Level Talks (HSLT) held on 22 July 2025, New Delhi.

(ii) Boundary Working Group (BWG) meeting on 28-29 July 2025, New Delhi.

(iii) 17th meeting of the Joint Technical Team (JTT) on Nepal - India Cooperation in Power Sector held on 3- 4 November 2025, Pokhara, Nepal.

(iv) 11th Lines of Credit (LOC) Review meeting held on 4 December 2025, New Delhi.

(v) 5th Joint Project Monitoring Committee (JPMC) on National Police Academy (NPA) project, held on 1 December 2025, VC mode.

(vi) 5th Meeting of India-Nepal Joint Working Group (JWG) on Petroleum and Gas sector held on 8 December 2025, New Delhi.

- (vii) **9th Joint Agriculture Working Group (JAWG) meeting held on 28-29 December 2025, Kathmandu.**
- (viii) **Survey Officials Committee (SOC) meeting held on 2-4 February 2026, Kathmandu.**
- (ix) **17th Indo-Nepal Power Exchange Committee (PEC) meeting held on 12-13 March 2026 Pokhara, Nepal.**
- (x) **6th Joint Project Monitoring Committee (JPMC) on National Police Academy (NPA) project held on 27 April 2026, VC mode.**
- (xi) **11th Meeting of India-Nepal Joint Committee on Kosi and Gandak Projects (JCKGP) held on 30 April – 1 May 2026, Kathmandu.**
- (xii) **2nd Bilateral meeting of India-Nepal Joint Team on Flood Forecasting Activities on Rivers common to India and Nepal held on 2 May 2026, Kathmandu.**
- (xiii) **18th meeting of the Joint Technical Team (JTT) on Nepal - India Cooperation in Power Sector held on 7-8 May 2026, New Delhi.**
- (xiv) **10th Project Steering Committee (PSC) Meeting on Rail Linksheld on 11 June 2026, Kathmandu.**
- (xv) **8th Joint Working Group (JWG) meeting on Rail Links held on 12 June 2026, Kathmandu.**
- (xvi) **13th meeting of Joint Working Group (JWG) on Nepal-India cooperation in Power Sector held on 14 July 2026 Pokhara, Nepal.**

**(xvii) 13th Meeting of Joint Steering Committee (JSC) on Nepal-India
Cooperation in Power Sector held on 15 July 2026 Pokhara, Nepal.**

(E) SRI LANKA

(i) Sri Lankan President Anura Kumar Dissanayake visited India in December 2024 during which Joint Statement titled ‘Fostering Partnerships for a Shared Future’ was adopted;

(ii) Prime Minister paid a visit to Sri Lanka on 5 – 6 April 2025. Among other agreements, MoU on Defence Cooperation was also signed between the two sides;

(iii) Prime Minister’s meeting with Sri Lankan President H.E. Anura Kumara Disanayaka during latter’s visit to India in February 2026 for the AI Impact Summit during which deepening connectivity, expanding trade and economic ties were also discussed;

(iv) Hon’ble Vice President of India visited Sri Lanka from 19-20 April 2026;

(v) External Affairs Minister visited Sri Lanka 23 December 2025 as PM’s Special Envoy in the wake of Cyclone Ditwah and announced US\$ 450 million Special Economic Package for rehabilitation / reconstruction;

(vi) Sri Lankan Prime Minister Dr. Harini Amarasuriya visited India from 16-18 October 2025;

- (vii) Chief of the Air Staff of the Indian Air Force, Air Chief Marshal Amar Preet Singh visited Sri Lanka from 19-21 May 2026;**
- (viii) Indian Chief of the Army Staff, General Upendra Dwivedi visited Sri Lanka from 7-8 January 2026;**
- (ix) India's Chief of Naval Staff, Admiral Dinesh K Tripathi visited Sri Lanka from 22 - 25 September 2025;**
- (x) Negotiations for finalization of the Economic & Technology Cooperation Agreement (ETCA) covering both goods and services. The last (14th) round of talks held on 24-26 July 2024. The two sides are working for early resumption of negotiations;**
- (xi) The Second Meeting of the India-Sri Lanka Joint Working Group (JWG) was held on Renewable Energy on 23 September 2025;**
- (xii) A virtual Secretary-level meeting on discussing implementation related modalities of the India-Sri Lanka power grid interconnection, on 30 October 2025; and**
- (xiii) 8th Indo – Sri Lanka Defence Dialogue led by Defence Secretary was held in Colombo on 05 June 2025.**

(F) Maldives

- (i) Prime Minister of India, Shri Narendra Modi visited Maldives from 25-26 July 2025. Detailed discussions were held on trade and other issues;**

- (ii) Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, H.E. Abdullah Hameed visited India from 4-8 March 2026 to participate in Raisina Dialogue;**
- (iii) Minister of Economic Development, Transport, and Trade of Maldives, H.E. Mohamed Saeed visited India from 07 July to 9 July 2026;**
- (iv) Minister of State for Homeland, Security and Technology, H.E. Dr Mohamed Kinaanath visited India from 17 to 21 February 2026 for the AI Impact Summit;**
- (v) Speaker of Maldives, Hon. Abdul Raheem Abdulla visited India from 13-18 Jan 2026 for the 28th Conference of Speakers and Presiding Officers of the Commonwealth (CSPOC);**
- (vi) Minister of Foreign Affairs of Maldives, Ms. Iruthisham Adam visited India from 12-14 May 2026. She met EAM and they reviewed the entire gamut of bilateral relationship;**
- (vii) Abdulla Phairoosch, MoS for Homeland Security & Technology visited India for the 3rd India-Maldives Consular Dialogue;**
- (viii) 6th Defence Cooperation Dialogue, led by Defence Secretary, was held on 6 October 2025 in Male; and**
- (ix) India & Maldives held 9th Joint Staff Talks in Maldives, co-chaired by AVM Sundaramani Krishnan and Brig. General Mohammed Saleem, Commandant Coast Guard on 29 July 2026.**

**LIST OF MAJOR AGREEMENTS SIGNED WITH NEIGHBOURING COUNTRIES
DURING THE LAST TWO YEARS**

SRI LANKA

S.N	Agreements or Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) signed
1	MoU between National Centre for Good Governance (NCGG), Government of India and Sri Lanka Institute of Development Administration (SLIDA) on Training and Capacity Building Programme for Civil Servants of Sri Lanka
2	Protocol Amending the Agreement between the Government of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka and the Government of the Republic of India for the avoidance of double taxation and the prevention of fiscal evasion with respect to taxes on income.
3	MoU for implementation of HVDC interconnection for import/export of power
4	MoU on cooperation in the field of sharing successful digital solutions implemented at population scale for digital transformation.
5	MoU between the Government of the Republic of India, the Government of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, and

	the Government of United Arab Emirates for cooperation in development of Trincomalee as an Energy Hub
6	MoU on Defence Cooperation
7	MoU on multi-sectoral grant assistance for Eastern Province
8	MoU on cooperation in the field of Health & Medicine.
9	MoU on Pharmacopoeial Cooperation between the Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of the Republic of India and the National Medicines Regulatory Authority, Government of Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka.
10	MoU for implementation of High Impact Community Development Projects (HICDPs) in Sri Lanka through grant assistance from the Government of India (extended for 5 years)

MALDIVES

S.N	Agreements or Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) signed
1	Currency Swap Agreement
2	MoU between Rashtriya Raksha University of the Republic of India and National College of Policing and Law Enforcement of the

	Republic of Maldives
3	MoU between Central Bureau of Investigation and Anti-Corruption Commission of Maldives for bilateral cooperation on preventing and combating corruption
4	Renewal of MoU between National Judicial Academy of India (NJAI) and the Judicial Service Commission (JSC) of Maldives on Training and Capacity Building Programs for Maldivian judicial officers
5	Renewal of MoU between India and Maldives on Cooperation in Sports and Youth Affairs
6	Agreement for an LoC of INR 4,850 crores to Maldives
7	Amendatory Agreement on reducing annual debt repayment obligations of Maldives on Gol-funded LoCs
8	Terms of Reference of the India-Maldives Free Trade Agreement (FTA)
9	MoU on cooperation in the field of Fisheries & Aquaculture
10	MoU between the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM), Ministry of Earth Sciences and the Maldives Meteorological Services (MMS), Ministry of Tourism and Environment

11	MoU on cooperation in the field of sharing successful digital solutions implemented at population scale for Digital Transformation between Ministry of Electronics and IT of India and Ministry of Homeland Security and Technology of Maldives
12	MoU on recognition of Indian Pharmacopoeia (IP) by Maldives
13	Network-to-Network Agreement between India's NPCI International Payment Limited (NIPL) and Maldives Monetary Authority (MMA) on UPI in Maldives

MYANMAR

S.N.	Agreements or Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) signed
1	MoU on Cooperation in the field of Trade of Urad and Tur was extended for five years valid up to FY 2030–2031 was signed in March 2026
2	MoU on supply of lab equipment and apparatus to Nay Pyi Taw State Academy (NSA) was signed in February 2026
3	MoU on Cooperation in the field of Digital Identity was signed in July 2025
4	MoU on Contruction of Sarsobeikman Literary Building was signed

	in March 2024
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NEPAL

S.N.	Agreements or Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) signed
1	Business to Business (B2B) Framework Agreement between Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IndianOil) and Nepal Oil Corporation (NOC) for execution of projects envisaged in the G2G MoU signed in 2023
2	MoU for strengthening cooperation in Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) sector including Waste Management
3	MoU between the Supreme Court of India and the Supreme Court of Nepal to develop, promote and strengthen judicial cooperation
4	MoU on Cooperation in the Field of Agriculture between India and Nepal
5	Letter of Exchange (LoE) amending the Protocol to the Treaty of Transit between India and Nepal
6	MoU between CBIC (India) and Department of Customs (Nepal) for cooperation in exchange of pre-arrival information on export of goods for trade facilitation and customs control
7	Agreement on Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters (MLAA)

	between India and Nepal
8	MoU on Biodiversity Conservation between India and Nepal
9	MoU between Digital India Bhashini and Kathmandu University for co-creating National Digital Infrastructure for "Voice First" Language Translation platform

BHUTAN

S.N.	Agreements or Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) signed
1	Methodology for reactive energy accounting between India and Bhutan signed between central electricity authority, Ministry of Power, Government of India and department of energy, Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources, Royal Government of Bhutan
2	Protocol to the agreement between the Government of the Republic of India and the Royal Government of Bhutan regarding the Punatsanchhu-II hydroelectric project signed on 30th April, 2010 (tariff protocol)
3	Protocol to the agreement signed on 30th April, 2010 between the Government of the Republic of India and the Royal Government of Bhutan regarding the Mangdechhu hydroelectric project in Bhutan on the total debt servicing schedule of principal and interest

4	MoU between the Ministry of Infrastructure and Transport, Royal Government of Bhutan and the Department of Posts, Ministry of Communications, Government of India for advancing bilateral cooperation in the postal sector.
5	MoU between the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy of the Government of the Republic of India and The Ministry of Energy and Natural resources of the Royal Government of Bhutan on Cooperation in the field of Renewable Energy
6	MoU between the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare of the Government of the Republic of India and the Ministry of Health of the Royal Government of Bhutan on Cooperation in the field of Health and Medicine
7	MoU between PEMA Secretariat, Bhutan and National Institute of Mental Health and Neuro Sciences (NIMHANS) India on Building Institutional Linkage
8	MoU between the Government of India and The Royal Government of Bhutan for the establishment of railway links between India and Bhutan.
9	MoU between Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare

	Government of Republic of India and Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Royal Government of Bhutan on Technical cooperation in the field of Agriculture, Livestock and Allied Sectors
10	MoU between Bhutan National Legal Institute and National Judicial Academy, Bhopal on cooperation in Judicial Education and Mutual Exchanges.
11	MoU between the Supreme Court of Bhutan and the Supreme Court of India in the field of Judicial Cooperation.
12	MoU between the Government of Republic of India and the Royal Government of Bhutan on general supply of Petroleum, Oil, Lubricants (POL) and related products from India to Bhutan
13	Agreement for recognition of official control exercised by Bhutan Food And Drug Authority (BFDA) by Food Safety and Standards Authority Of India (FSSAI)
14	MoU on cooperation in the field of Energy Efficiency and Energy Conservation measures
15	MoU on cooperation in Sports and Youth
16	MoU on cooperation concerning sharing reference standard, pharmacopoeia, vigilance and testing of medicinal products

17	Joint Plan of Action (JPOA) on Space Cooperation
18	Renewal of MoU on Peering Arrangement between National Knowledge Network of India (NKN) and Druk Research And Education Network of Bhutan
19	MoU between Government of India and Royal Government of Bhutan regarding loan for Gyalsung Infrastructure project.

**NEW INITIATIVES LAUNCHED UNDER INDIA'S "NEIGHBOURHOOD FIRST"
POLICY**

SRI LANKA

**Special Economic Package (SEP) of around US\$ 450 million for post
Cyclone Ditwah rehabilitation and reconstruction in Sri Lanka**

MALDIVES

**Expanding financial connectivity through Network to Network Agree-
ment between NPCI and Maldives Monetary Authority on UPI in Mal-
dives and establishing Joint Working Group (JWG) on Fishermen,
Health and Counter – terrorism in Maldives**

AFGHANISTAN

**Several initiatives, including the Air Freight Corridor, Joint Working
Groups, and Joint Chambers of Commerce, have been launched be-
tween the two countries.**

MYANMAR

**Under the Neighbourhood First policy, India has acted as a trusted
partner for Myanmar through extensive developmental aid. Most re-
cently, under the Mekong-Ganga Cooperation, the ICCR scholarship
slots for Myanmar nationals were increased from 36 to 100 annually.**

Further, as a responsible neighbor and a committed regional partner, India has been the first responder for Myanmar in times of crisis. In the aftermath of the 7.7 magnitude earthquake that struck Myanmar in Marh 2025, India launched Operation Brahma to provide humanitarian aid and relief.

BANGLADESH

- (i) Enhancing trade and connectivity with Bangladesh through the inauguration of second cargo trade gate at ICP Petrapole in October 2024.**
- (ii) Sub-regional connectivity in energy sector has also been initiated with a tripartite agreement between Nepal, Bangladesh and India to export 40 MW of electricity from Nepal to Bangladesh using the Indian grid. The first export under this arrangement was undertaken in November 2024.**

NEPAL

- (i) Long Term Power Trade: The Agreement for Long Term Power Trade signed in 2024 envisages the export of up to 10,000 MW power from Nepal to India over the next decade.**
- (ii) Cross-Border Digital Payments: Peer-to-Peer (P2P) linkage between Unified Payments Interface (UPI) of India and National Payments Interface (NPI) of Nepal was launched on 6 June 2026. This will facilitate cross-border personal remittances between India and Nepal.**

(iii) Agreement on Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters

(MLAA): The Agreement was signed in February 2026. This Agreement will benefit the people of India and Nepal by providing an institutional legal framework to enhance the effectiveness of investigation, prosecution and judicial proceedings relating to cross-border crimes.

(iv) India-Nepal Startup Partnership Network (IN-SPAN) programme:

IN-SPAN aims to catalyse cross-border innovation, foster investment linkages, and build enduring entrepreneurial partnerships between India and Nepal. Under this programme, 24 startups from Nepal attended an eight-week training cum incubation programme at IIT Madras Pravartak Technologies Foundation during December 2025 and January 2026. The 2nd Cohort of IN-SPAN saw participation of 25 startups from Nepal is currently undergoing training at IIT Madras Pravartak Technologies Foundation till 31 July 2026.

(v) LoE amending the Protocol to the Treaty of Transit between India and

Nepal: The first commercial shipment arrived at the Nepal Customs Yard, Biratnagar, from Kolkata Port via the Indian Customs Yard in Jogbani, on 20 July 2026, following the signing of the Letter of Exchange amending the Protocol to the India–Nepal Treaty of Transit in November 2025. The cross-border cargo train services will help reduce logistics costs and further boost India–Nepal trade.

- (vi) An MoU between Digital India Bhashini and Kathmandu University for co-creating National Digital Infrastructure for “Voice First” Language Translation platform was signed on 6 June 2026. The MoU is envisioned as an initiative to strengthen people-to-people connections and preserve linguistic heritage.**

BHUTAN

- (i) Establishment of railway links between India and Bhutan – Two Cross-border rail links namely Banahrhat-Samstse and Kokrajhar-Gelephu are being undertaken between India and Bhutan. The rail links will strengthen cross border connectivity and boost trade and people to people ties.**
- (ii) Strengthening spiritual Buddhist connections between India and Bhutan – The Royal Bhutan Temple at Rajgir, Bihar was consecrated in September 2025. Gol has accorded approval for construction of a third Bhutanese temple and Monastery at Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh. The initiative would strengthen the cultural and civilisational ties between India and Bhutan and also likely lead to increase in tourism and economic activity.**
- (iii) Enhancing digital payment connectivity through launch of India’s Bharat Interface for Money (BHIM) application in Bhutan – The initiative**

would expand economic cooperation with Bhutan and facilitate tourists/students/traders etc. through ease of cross-border payments.

(iv) Establishment of Integrated Check Post in Darranga, Assam – The ICP was inaugurated in November 2024. It will facilitate entry/exit of third country nationals on the India-Bhutan border and boost bilateral trade and tourism.

(v) Support to Bhutan's 13th Five Year Plan (FYP) – GoI has committed a grant assistance of INR 10,000/- Crore for Bhutan's 13th Five Year Plan (2024-2029). The GoI assistance will contribute to Bhutan's development efforts, and deepen India-Bhutan development partnership, which is an important facet of the bilateral relation with Bhutan.
