



## Ministry of External Affairs

Government of India

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# Q NO.2066 CHINESE MOVE TOWARDS SRI LANKA

December 11, 2014

RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2066  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 11.12.2014

CHINESE MOVE TOWARDS SRI LANKA

2066. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the China has rapidly expanded its footprint in Sri Lanka, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether Government is aware that this Chinese move is leading to great security threat to India and its coastal region; and
- (c) if so, the steps that have been taken so far by Government to ensure India's securities in the borders and Indian Ocean?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
[GEN. (DR) V. K. SINGH (RETD)]

(a) Recently, the President of China visited Sri Lanka from 16-17 September, 2014. During the visit, 27 Agreements/MOUs were signed between the two countries. China has been one of the important economic partners of Sri Lanka since the end of the conflict in Sri Lanka in 2009. Sri Lanka-China bilateral trade reached US\$ 3.085 billion in 2013 (second only to India).

(b) & (c) India's relations with other countries stand on their own footing and are independent of the relations of those countries with third countries. Government keeps a constant watch on all relevant developments having a bearing on India's security interests and, in this regard, undertakes all necessary measures to safeguard it.



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