



## Ministry of External Affairs

Government of India

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# Q NO. 3 VISIT OF PRESIDENT OF SRI LANKA TO INDIA

April 23, 2015

RAJYA SABHA  
STARRED QUESTION NO. 3  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 23.04.2015

## VISIT OF PRESIDENT OF SRI LANKA TO INDIA

\*3. SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the President of Sri Lanka has recently visited India and held discussion with various leaders at New Delhi;
- (b) if so, the details of discussions held with various leaders and outcome thereof;
- (c) whether India has signed an agreement on nuclear cooperation with Sri Lanka; and
- (d) if so, the details of the agreement and to what extent the Nuclear capability and capacity of India would enhance as a result thereof?

## ANSWER

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

(a) to (d) A statement is laid on the table of the House

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STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (d) OF THE RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 3 REGARDING THE "VISIT OF PRESIDENT OF SRI LANKA TO INDIA" FOR ANSWER ON 23.04.2015

(a) & (b) H.E. Mr. Maithripala Sirisena, President of Sri Lanka, undertook a State Visit to India from 15-18 February 2015. President Sirisena held delegation level talks with the Prime Minister on 16 February 2015. The discussions focussed on bilateral relations and international issues of mutual concern. External Affairs Minister, Finance Minister and Defence Minister called on President Sirisena. Four Agreements / MoUs were signed during the visit, namely, Agreement on Cooperation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear

Energy, Programme of Cultural Cooperation for the years 2015-18, an MoU which facilitates participation of Sri Lanka in the Establishment of Nalanda University and Work Plan for 2015-16 under the MoU on Cooperation in the field of Agriculture. Rashtrapatiji hosted a State Banquet for President Sirisena. Announcements were also made on holding of Commerce Secretary Level talks and reduction of entry fees for Sri Lankan nationals visiting the National Museum to pay homage to Kapilavastu relics.

(c) & (d) An Agreement between India and Sri Lanka on Cooperation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy was signed on 16 February 2015. The Agreement would facilitate cooperation in the transfer and exchange of knowledge and expertise, sharing of resources, capacity building and training of personnel in peaceful uses of nuclear energy including production and use of radioisotopes, nuclear safety, radiation safety, nuclear security, radioactive waste management, nuclear and radiological disaster mitigation and environmental protection. The Agreement would institutionalise bilateral cooperation in the area of civil nuclear energy and further strengthen bilateral ties.

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