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## QUESTION NO.1776 PARTNERSHIP WITH SRI LANKA ON IMPORTANT AREAS

December 01, 2016

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1776
TO BE ANSWERED ON 01.12.2016

## PARTNERSHIP WITH SRI LANKA ON IMPORTANT AREAS

1776: SHRI K.R.ARJUNAN:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that a discussion had been held with Sri Lanka for potential India-Sri Lanka partnerships in areas such as transport, energy and infrastructure, if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) whether it is also a fact that India and Sri Lanka are also negotiating a trade deal, the Economic and Technological Cooperation Agreement, if so, the details thereof?

## ANSWER THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI M. J. AKBAR)

- (a) Relations between India and Sri Lanka are marked by periodic high level exchanges and discussions which cover the entire gamut of bilateral cooperation including in areas such as transport, energy and infrastructure.
- (b) Yes. Negotiations on the India-Sri Lanka Economic and Technological Cooperation Agreement (ETCA) have commenced with the objective of further deepening bilateral economic engagement across a broad spectrum. So far two rounds have been held, in August and September 2016.

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Working hours at Headquarters 9:00 A.M. To 5:30 P.M.