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**Press Information Bureau  
Government of India  
Ministry of External Affairs**

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**Funding of Projects in Bhutan**

The Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs Shrimati Preneet Kaur said in reply to a question in Lok Sabha today that India is funding/supporting any developmental infrastructural projects in Bhutan.

India is Bhutan's principal developmental partner. Since 1961, the Government of India has extended financial assistance to Bhutan's successive Five Year Plans for its socio-economic development. The various projects and schemes implemented with our assistance are identified by the Royal Government of Bhutan in accordance with their budgetary priorities. The areas of our project assistance include agriculture, information and communications technology, hydropower, health, tertiary education, human resource development, roads, energy, urban development, judiciary, constitutional offices and civil aviation etc. Our assistance under the Small Developmental Projects (SDPs) scheme includes drinking water, irrigation and community projects. During the visit of the Prime Minister of Bhutan to India in August 2013, a Govt. of India assistance package of Rs. 4500 Crore towards Bhutan's 11th Five Year Plan from 2013-2018 was announced.

YSKataria