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## Q NO 2880.BILATERAL RELATION WITH MALDIVES

December 18, 2014

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2880 TO BE ANSWERED ON 18.12.2014

## **BILATERAL RELATION WITH MALDIVES**

2880. DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is maintaining historical friendship with Maldives giving regional strength and also in global politics and international relations maintaining India's Leadership and equality with Maldives; and
- (b) if so, the recent 'Maritime Silk Route' understanding with China by Maldives is not changing the situation and relationship of India-Maldives?

## **ANSWER**

THE MINISTER FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ)

- (a) India has traditional and age old ties of friendship and cooperation with Maldives. Bilateral cooperation between India and Maldives has continued to grow, especially in the areas of defence and security.
- (b) Our bilateral relations stand independent of the relations of Maldives with any other country. Government of India will continue its positive engagement with the Maldives in the spirit of the close and friendly relations between the two countries.

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