

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2263
TO BE ANSWERED ON 29.07.2022**

MEETING OF STATE LEADERS WITH FOREIGN DIPLOMATS

2263. SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Chief Ministers of the State, Ministers and State Officials are permitted to interact with diplomats of foreign countries without the prior permission of the Ministry as per the protocol and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government of Kerala has sought permission from the Union Government to meet the diplomats from foreign country during their visit to the State and host such diplomats and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government of Kerala has sought permission from the Union Government to seek help of diplomats of UAE for sending the baggage belonging to State Executives and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Union Government has sought report from the Government of Kerala regarding the protocol violation; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
[DR. RAJKUMAR RANJAN SINGH]**

(a) As per existing instructions of the Government of India, the Foreign Missions are required to conduct all official business with the State Governments through the Ministry of External Affairs. No programme may be arranged or calls on dignitaries fixed by the State Governments for foreign diplomats, including Heads of Missions, unless cleared by the Ministry of External Affairs. This is an essential protocol requirement to ensure that foreign missions observe proper procedures.

(b) to (e) No, Sir.
