

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-3084

ANSWERED ON- 09/08/2024

TRADE SECURITY COOPERATION

3084. SHRI K E PRAKASH

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :-

(a) the details of recent bilateral agreements signed with neighboring countries to enhance trade and security cooperation;

(b) the measures taken by the Government to safeguard the interests of Indian citizens living abroad, especially in conflict zones; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to strengthen India's diplomatic presence and influence in Africa and Latin America?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

(SHRI PABITRA MARGHERITA)

(a) In the recent years, India has signed a number of Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) with neighbouring countries in a number of

areas of mutual interest aimed at enhancing people to people contacts and connectivity across the region, as well as augmenting trade and commerce.

(b) The welfare and protection of Indians abroad is among the highest priorities of the Government. Indian Missions/ Posts abroad respond to any issues raised by Indians on a priority basis through various channels like calls, walk-ins, e-mails, social media, 24x7 Helplines, Open Houses, MADAD portal, etc. and during emergency or crisis situations, Missions/Posts abroad pro-actively reach out and help distressed /stranded Indian nationals by providing consular assistance, food, shelter, medicine and return passage to India.

(c) The broad foreign policy vision of the Government is to maximize India's presence abroad in the most optimal manner. Since 2014, several new Indian diplomatic Missions have been established in Africa, Latin American and Caribbean, to expand our presence and reach in these areas.
