

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4102
ANSWERED ON:19.04.2000
SUPPORT TO INDIA S CANDIDATURE FOR SC
ASHOK KUMAR PATEL;BHAWANA GAWALI (PATIL)

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the countries which have openly and officially supported the India`s claim for permanent seat in the UN Security Council;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether five permanent members of the UNO have not supported the India`s case;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether India has taken up this matter with different countries; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

(SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA)

(a) Eight countries have so far made public expressions of support at the UN for India`s candidature for a permanent seat in the UN Security Council.

(b) These countries are Mauritius, Bhutan, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Russia, Vietnam, Laos and Cyprus. Of these eight countries, the last four i.e. Russia, Vietnam, Laos and Cyprus made their statements of support during the 54th UN General Assembly.

(c) & (d) Out of the five permanent members of the UN Security Council, Russia has openly supported India`s candidature during discussions in the UN. We are further aware that France attaches a considerable degree of importance to India`s candidature. France has not yet made an open statement of support at the UN but has expressed its support during bilateral discussions. Britain, USA and China have not made any commitments so far.

(e) & (f) India`s candidature for a permanent seat in the Security Council is one of the priorities of our foreign policy. Since India officially announced its candidature during the 49th General Assembly in 1994, we have been actively lobbying for support both bilaterally and at suitable multilateral fora. The response that we have received is encouraging. In addition to eight public statements of support at the UN, of which four statements were made at the last UN General Assembly, we have also received expressions of support during bilateral discussions from a significant number of countries.

It is worth noting that during the last UN General Assembly in addition to Japan and Germany the only other country for whom public support was expressed is India.