

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1577
ANSWERED ON:28.11.2001
CONSTRUCTION OF EMBASSY COMPLEX IN BRAZIL
P. RAJENDRAN

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Brazil had gifted a plot of land in 1965 to the Indian Embassy in Brasilia for the construction of an Embassy Complex;
- (b) if so, whether Embassy continues to hire accommodation to house the various functionaries; and
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH)

(a) & (b) Yes Sir.

(c) The Government had initiated steps at various points of time for undertaking construction project including engagement of an architect for conceptual layout plan and for determination of estimated cost of construction. The economic viability of the project is yet to be established. The main reason being high cost of construction prevailing in Brazil compared with relatively lower rental structure. The cost of construction in Brazil at US \$ 1,000 per square metre is extremely exorbitant, whereas in most of the other countries the cost of construction is in the range of US \$ 400-500 per square metre. Hence, the Embassy continues to hire accommodation.