

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1647

ANSWERED ON:13.03.2002

COMMONWEALTH MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE ON TERRORISM

GANGASANDRA SIDDAPPA BASAVARAJ;IQBAL AHMED SARADGI

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government are intensifying their diplomatic engagement on the anti-terrorism front;
- (b) if so, whether he visited U.K to take part in a special one-day Commonwealth Ministerial Conference on Terrorism recently; and
- (c) if so, the main decisions taken in the conference?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Hon`ble Minister of External Affairs attended the first ministerial meeting of the Commonwealth Committee on Terrorism in London on 29 January 2002.

(c) The Committee on Terrorism endorsed the Commonwealth Plan of Action to implement the Commonwealth Statement on Terrorism issued on 25th October 2001. It agreed that any member state that aided, supported, financed, instigated or harboured terrorists or permitted such activities within its jurisdiction, violated the fundamental values of the Commonwealth and should have no place in it. The Plan is designed to assist member states in complying with their obligations under UN Security Council Resolution 1373 particularly in areas where the Commonwealth has comparative advantage.