

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:611
ANSWERED ON:17.07.2002
SENDING OF ENVOYS BY EU
ANANDRAO ADSUL

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the European Union has decided to send back envoys to India and Pakistan;
- (b) if so, whether this decision was taken at the meeting of EU Foreign Minister in Luxembourg;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether India has welcomed this move; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof.

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS(SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH)

- (a), (b) & (c) The EU General Affairs Council meeting at Foreign Ministerial level in Luxembourg affirmed the commitment of EU to work for India and Pakistan and with others in the international community to defuse the immediate crisis and to support efforts to achieve a lasting resolution to the differences between India and Pakistan. The Declaration adopted at the EU Council meeting at Seville on 21st and 22nd June 2002, while encouraging both countries to achieve a lasting settlement through bilateral dialogue, also suggested that the EU High Representative, Mr. Solana pay an early visit to the region.
- (d) & (e) The possibility of a visit by the EU High Representative at a mutually convenient time is under consideration.