

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1472
ANSWERED ON:27.11.2002
VISIT OF FOREIGN MINISTER OF FRANCE
IQBAL AHMED SARADGI

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Foreign Minister of France visited India in July-August, 2002 and held discussion on Indo-French co-operation in the political, economic, military, scientific and cultural fields and reviewed the strategic dialogue initiated between the two countries in 1998;
- (b) if so, whether any agreements between the two countries on that occasion had been signed;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the extent to which these agreements are likely to boost Indo-French ties?

Answer

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

a) French Foreign Minister Dominique de Villepin visited India on 2nd-3rd August 2002. During his meeting with EAM a wide range of issues were discussed including an in depth review of bilateral political, economic, scientific and cultural cooperation as well as regional and international issues of mutual concern. The on-going strategic dialogue between the two countries was also reviewed.

b, c & d) No agreement was signed during the visit.