

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2246  
ANSWERED ON:06.08.2003  
PERMANENT CANDIDATURE OF INDIA IN UNSC  
PRABHA RAU;VILAS BABURAO MUTTEMWAR

**Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether during the recent visit of the Prime Minister and Deputy Prime Minister to European countries, United States, UK and China etc. India's claim for permanent membership of the UN Security Council was discussed with the respective Governments and their representatives;
- (b) if so, the response of these countries thereto.
- (c) whether any global consensus has been brought about in this regard; and
- (d) if so, the details in this regard?

**Answer**

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

- (a)&(b) The issue of UN Reforms and, inter alia, India's claim to be a permanent member of the UNSC came up for discussions during the visits of Prime Minister and Deputy PM in the recent past. Our point of view was noted and there were clear expressions of support in some countries.
- (c)&(d) Several countries – permanent members as well as others – have openly expressed support for India's candidature either in the UN or in the context of bilateral exchanges. However, it is difficult to anticipate any specific time frame for reform or expansion of the UNSC, in view of the diverse perceptions of various countries on the specifics of such reforms.