

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:295
ANSWERED ON:03.12.2003
ADDITIONAL SPACE FOR INDIAN MISSION IN US
SRIKANTA DATTA NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have a proposal to acquire additional space for Indian Mission at Washington;
- (b) if so, the reasons for the same;
- (c) the total land under the occupation of the Union Government at Washington;
- (d) the additional space acquired/proposed to be acquired for Indian Mission there; and
- (e) the amount spent/being spent for the purchase of this additional space?

Answer

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

- a) Yes. The Ministry is processing a proposal for purchasing a built-up property to locate the proposed Indian Cultural Centre in Washington DC.
- b) It is proposed that the Cultural Centre based in Washington DC would promote cultural activities, conduct study of modern India through lectures and seminars, maintain linkages with American cultural and educational institutions, interact with think-tanks and policy research bodies and render assistance to Indian artists, academics and students.
- c) The Ministry owns 19 (nineteen) properties in Washington DC which are utilized for office and residential use.
- d) & e) The proposal for the purchase of built-up property in Washington DC for an India Cultural Centre is being processed. Pending conclusion of the deal, it would not be advisable to publicise the purchase price offered.