

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1377
ANSWERED ON:10.12.2003
SOUTH ASIA FORUM
M.H. AMBAREESH;M.V.V.S MURTHI;PRABODH PANDA

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a South Asia Forum has been set up;
- (b) if so, the objects and functions of the Forum; and
- (c) the number of members including their names and designations?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI VINOD KHANNA)

(a),(b)&(c) Some Members of Parliament have recently set up a South Asia Forum. It is understood that the objectives are to strengthen cooperation among the countries of the region, to increase people-to-people contacts and to open a dialogue with the intelligentsia and like minded organizations of South Asia. It is further understood that the members of the Forum are Members of Parliament from various political parties.