

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1039
ANSWERED ON:01.03.2000
SECURITY COVER TO KARMAPA LAMA
AMAR ROY PRADHAN

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have provided appropriate security cover to 14 year old Karmapa Lama and his six other entourage on his arrival in India in January 2000;
- (b) if so, the purpose of visit of Karmapa Lama; and
- (c) the details of circumstances under which the security cover had been provided to them by the Government?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH)

(a), (b) & (c): Following the arrival in Dharmasala on January 5, 2000 of Lama Ugyen Thinley Dorji, recognised by his supporters as the 17th Gyalwa Karmapa, the State Government of Himachal Pradesh provided him with security cover. In his public statement on arrival, Lama Ugyen Thinley Dorji said that he had come to India to practice Dharma and perform his religious duties freely. The Chinese side has been requested to share with us details regarding the circumstances of his departure from Tibet for India.