

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1680  
ANSWERED ON:02.08.2000  
VISIT OF NORWAY ENVOY  
VILAS BABURAO MUTTEMWAR

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

- (a) whether a Norway peace envoy visited India in May, 2000;
- (b) if so, the issues taken up for discussion;
- (c) the respective stand of both the Governments thereon; and
- (d) the outcome of the discussion?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA)

(a) to (d) Mr. Eric Solheim, Norwegian Member of Parliament and Special Advisor to the Norwegian Foreign Minister on Sri Lanka, visited India on May 11 and 24, 2000, and on June 29, 2000 to exchange views on the situation in Sri Lanka and to brief Government on the Norwegian effort to facilitate talks. The Special Advisor agreed with Government's view on the need for a political settlement to the conflict within the framework of the unity, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Sri Lanka, in a manner that would safeguard the aspirations of all communities.