GOVERNMENT OF INDIA EXTERNAL AFFAIRS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2826 ANSWERED ON:09.08.2000 G-15 SUMMIT BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the issues discussed at the recently held G-15 Summit in Cairo;
- (b) the outcome thereof;
- (c) the main points raised by the Indian Delegation in the Summit; and
- (d) the response of other delegates thereto?

Answer

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

- (a)&(b) The Summit focussed on a variety of issues of importance to countries of the South global developments in the 21st century and prospects of the South; impact of globalisation; poverty eradication and external debt; the importance of an equitable multilateral trading system; North-South Dialogue; enhancement of ODA; mobilisation of foreign direct investment; revamping of the international financial architecture; transfer of technology and South-South Cooperation. The theme discussed the Retreat by the G-15 Heads of State/ Government was Peace, Disarmament and Development.
- (c) & (d) At the Summit, India focussed on the increasing asymmetry of and imbalances in the global economy, the increased opportunities for South-South Cooperation, the need for an affective North-South dialogue, effective implementation of the Uruguay Round Agreements, negation of any endorsement of a new WTO round, ensuring attention to the special and differential needs of developing countries under the WTO, renewed focus on tangible and effective G-15 projects, revamping of the international financial architecture, etc. India also made a pointed reference to the scourge of terrorism, the threat it poses to peace and stability at national, regional and international levels, and its nexus with illicit arms, and called for the urgent conclusion and implementation of a Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism.

India's concerns on major issues were endorsed by the G-15 member countries and duly incorporated in the Joint Communiqué.