

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5828  
ANSWERED ON:04.05.2005  
VISIT OF EAM TO US  
Nayak Shri Ananta;Yaskhi Shri Madhu Goud

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

- (a) whether an Indian delegation headed by the Minister of External Affairs visited the United States recently;
- (b) if so, the details in this regard;
- (c) the details of issues discussed during the visit;
- (d) the outcome thereof;
- (e) whether any MoUs were signed during the said visit; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the benefits likely to be gained by India from these agreements?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED)

- (a) & (b) An Indian delegation headed by External Affairs Minister visited US on April 13-14, 2005. He was accompanied by Deputy Chairman Planning Commission, Foreign Secretary, and officials of the Ministry of External Affairs, Department of Atomic Energy and Department of Space. During the visit, he called on US President George W. Bush, and met with his US counterpart US Secretary of State Dr. Condoleezza Rice, US National Security Advisor Mr. Stephen Hadley, and the Chairman of the US Senate Foreign Relations Committee Mr. Richard Lugar.
- (c) The talks were wide-ranging covering all issues of mutual interest with a view to building a long term partnership between India and the US across the board.
- (d) The two sides agreed on a Strategic Dialogue chaired by External Affairs Minister of India and US Secretary of State that will provide political direction to our ties. An Energy Dialogue was set up that would include nuclear energy, hydrocarbons and cleaner technologies as agenda and would be co-Chaired by Deputy Chairman Planning Commission and the US Energy Secretary. The sides also created a Joint Working Group on Space Cooperation with the goal of promoting satellite fabrication and launch of Indian vehicles. Need for an early completion of NSSP was stressed. US expressed understanding for India's aspirations in regard to global institutions, welcomed more active association by India with G-8 and decided to send Special Adviser to US Secretary of State for UN reforms to India for discussions.
- (e) No MoU was signed during the visit.
- (f) The question does not arise.