

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1981
ANSWERED ON:21.07.2004
INDO-US TALKS ON PROLIFERATION
Rao Shri Sambasiva Rayapati

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether talks on proliferation between India and US was held recently;
- (b) if so, the details of discussions held;
- (c) whether US has invited India to join PSI which has currently 14 members; and
- (d) If so, the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI RAO INDERJIT SINGH)

(a)-(d) Officials from India and the United States have held discussions on diverse issues on the non-proliferation agenda. The last round of these discussions was held in Washington on 31 March 2004. Discussions have been held with the US side on the Proliferation Security Initiative (PSI). In these discussions, Government has been guided by considerations related to legitimacy of actions under the Proliferation Security Initiative and their grounding in international law.