

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:343

ANSWERED ON:02.03.2005

EMERGENCY SITUATION IN NEPAL

Chowdhury Shri Adhir Ranjan;Kuppusami Shri C.;Owaisi Shri Asaduddin;Rao Shri Sambasiva Rayapati;Singh Shri Uday;Yadav Shri Mitrasen

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India has expressed its serious concern over recent development in Nepal;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the impact thereof on Indo-Nepal relation;
- (c) whether Non-resident Indians and Nepalese have been infiltrating into India after the imposition of emergency there;
- (d) if so, the action being taken by the Government in this regard;
- (e) whether a few Indian security personnel were killed in the shoot out that occurred in the Indian Embassy premises in Nepal as reported in the Statesman dated January 19, 2005;
- (f) if so, the facts and details thereof; and
- (g) the steps taken by the Union Government in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) to (g) A Statement is placed on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN THE ANSWER TO THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 343, TO BE ANSWERED ON 02.03.2005 ON `EMERGENCY SITUATION IN NEPAL`

(a) & (b) Government of India has expressed grave concern following the dismissal of the multi-party government, declaration of emergency, arrest of political leaders and others and imposition of media censorship in Nepal on February 1, 2005. These developments constitute a serious setback to the cause of democracy and would only benefit the anti-constitutional forces. India has always believed that the challenges being faced by Nepal can be addressed effectively only on the basis of national consensus. In this context, we have called for a return to democratic processes at the earliest. All arrested political leaders, media personnel, intellectuals and human rights activists should be released immediately and allowed to exercise their Constitutional rights. On its part, India will continue to support all efforts for the restoration of political stability and economic prosperity in Nepal.

(c) & (d) Government of India is aware that several Nepalese citizens, including political leaders, have crossed over to India following the imposition of emergency in the country. India and Nepal share an open border and regime of visa free movement. The Government is keeping a close watch on the situation and has taken appropriate steps to maintain security in the areas bordering Nepal.

(e), (f) & (g) On January 18, 2005, a member of the Central Industrial Security Force contingent posted at the Embassy of India in Kathmandu, opened fire in which two of his colleagues died and three other security guards received splinter injuries.

An investigation team comprising officers from CBI and CISF reached Kathmandu the same day for investigations. The assailant was immediately arrested, suspended from service and was brought back to India for further investigations and trial.