

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2433  
ANSWERED ON:22.07.2009  
DISGRACEFUL USE OF LORD BUDDHA'S STATUE  
Patasani Dr. (Prof.) Prasanna Kumar

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the fact that a footwear store in Geneva uses the statue of Buddha to hang shoes;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has taken up the matter with Swiss authorities;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) the reaction of the Swiss authorities thereto; and
- (f) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS(SMT. PRENEET KAUR)

(a) to (f) Government is aware of media reports that a footwear store in Geneva had displayed a statue of Lord Buddha garlanded with shoes. The matter was taken up by our Mission with the concerned footwear store. The store acknowledged the incident and expressed its deep apologies, while assuring that such a display would not recur. Neither the inappropriate display nor the statue itself is there any longer at the shop.