

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4105
ANSWERED ON:21.04.2010
DELEGATION FOR PROMOTING HINDI
Thakur Shri Anurag Singh

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of delegations which visited foreign countries for the promotion of official language Hindi during the last three years;
- (b) the extent of success achieved as a result thereof; and
- (c) the expenditure incurred on such tours by the Government year-wise?

Answer

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

(a): One delegation has visited the U.S.A. in 2007 for the promotion of official language Hindi to participate in the 8th World Hindi Conference held in New York. The delegation was led by Shri Anand Sharma, the then Minister of State for External Affairs. Various eminent Hindi scholars from India and abroad were part of the delegation.

(b): The inaugural function of the World Hindi Conference was held at the United Nations and addressed by Mr. Ban-Ki-Moon, Secretary General of UN. An audio-visual message by PM was also presented on this occasion. Many eminent Hindi scholars from India and abroad attended this historic conference. This occasion undoubtedly brought international attention on Hindi at the most coveted international platform. The event came in for high praise in various sections of press and media all over the world.

(c): The total sanctioned budget for the event was Rs. 6.6 crore and the actual expenditure was Rs. 5.1 crore approx.