

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4743
ANSWERED ON:25.08.2010
VISIT TO NORTH EASTERN STATES
Balram Shri P.

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the envoys of ASEAN countries visited North Eastern States;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the purpose behind the said visit; and
- (c) the comments of the Government thereon?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI S.M. KRISHNA)

(a) to (c) Heads of Missions of ASEAN countries attended the 4th North East Business Summit organised by Ministry of Development of North East Region in association with the Indian Chamber of Commerce, Kolkata in September 2008 to promote the North Eastern Region as an investment destination. The Thai Ambassador also visited Sikkim in 2009.

The North-East Region is ideally located to become an important player in India's growing economic ties with the countries of South East Asia. Close economic cooperation between North East Region and the countries of South East Asia would be mutually beneficial.