

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2488  
ANSWERED ON:24.11.2010  
TOLERANCE AND PEACE  
Singh Shri Dhananjay

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

(a) the steps taken by the Indian Embassies to promote tolerance and peace in various countries of the world through the values and thoughts of Mahatma Gandhiji; and

(b) the action being taken by our Embassies to strengthen and promote 'Religious Harmony' and 'Cultural Values' among different nations?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b): Indian Missions and Posts abroad work with civil society organizations, academic institutions, the Indian diaspora and cultural associations to promote the teachings of Mahatma Gandhi and the values espoused by him. As part of their work, our Missions and Posts focus on different facets of India's cultural heritage of which the values of peace, tolerance and non violence are an essential part.

It is noteworthy that the United Nations General Assembly in the year 2007 passed a Resolution to celebrate 2nd October (coinciding with Mahatma Gandhi's birthday) every year as 'International Day of Non Violence'. The Ministry of External Affairs has asked our Missions/ Posts to appropriately celebrate the day along with organisations and associations in their jurisdiction.