

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3475
ANSWERED ON:01.12.2010
EQUALITY FOR WOMEN
Sugumar Shri K.

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India has been elected to the board of the new UN agency to promote equality for women;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether India was one of the country that has attached the highest importance to gender main streaming and female empowerment in the UN; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) Yes, India was elected on November 10, 2010 by the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) as one of the 41 members to the Executive Board of the new UN Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women). India received 52 of the 54 votes. India's term is for a period of 2 years till 2013.

(c) & (d) India has always been at the forefront of issues relating to gender equality, gender mainstreaming and the empowerment of women and attaches great significance to it in the UN. India has been actively participating in all the debates on this issue in the UN General Assembly, the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) and has also co-sponsored all resolutions in various UN fora on this issue.