

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3552
ANSWERED ON:01.12.2010
SHIFT IN POLICY ON IRAN AND MYANMAR
Owaisi Shri Asaduddin;Shekhar Shri Neeraj

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the US President during his recent visit, made some remarks about the India's relations with Iran and Myanmar;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) whether India has its vital interest in Myanmar and Iran to meet its energy and crude oil requirements and Indians living in these countries;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government proposes to change its foreign policy in regard to these two countries after US President's remarks; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

Answer

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

- (a) & (b) Yes. There were references to Iran and Myanmar in the address of US President Barack Obama to a meeting of Members of Parliament on 8 November 2010. These remarks reflect the views of the United States and do not have a bearing on the policies of the Government of India with regard to Iran and Myanmar.
- (c) & (d) Iran is a major source of India's imports of energy resources. India and Myanmar have a broad based, multi dimensional relationship, including in the area of oil and natural gas.
- (e) & (f) India's bilateral relations with Iran and Myanmar stand on their own and are not influenced by India's relations with third countries.