

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1540

ANSWERED ON:30.11.2011

INTERNATIONAL PROTOCOL FOR FRISKING

Bhoi Shri Sanjay;Gaikwad Shri Eknath Mahadeo;Gowda Shri D.B. Chandre;Jeyadurai Shri S. R.;Kodikunnil Shri Suresh;Mandlik Shri Sadashivrao Dadoba;Yaskhi Shri Madhu Goud

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of international protocol followed by every major country as far as frisking of Heads of States/former Heads of States is concerned;
- (b) whether the Government has taken note of harassment of Indian dignitaries at the airports in foreign countries, including USA where a former Indian Head of State frisked twice at the New York airport and also on board recently;
- (c) if so, the details thereof during each of the last three years and the current year, country-wise;
- (d) the reaction of the Government thereon; and
- (e) the corrective actions taken in the matter?

Answer

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

- (a) There is no definitive international protocol. Each country follows a different protocol as far as frisking of Heads of State and former Heads of State are concerned.
- (b) & (c) Government is aware that there have been some instances in the last three years with the US including the recent case of a former Head of State where enhanced security procedures, inconsistent with usual courtesies and privileges, were sought to be applied.
- (d) & (e) Government has taken up the matter with concerned US authorities. The US Government has expressed regret for such incidents and has conveyed that it will take steps to avoid similar incidents at airports in the US in the future.