GOVERNMENT OF INDIA EXTERNAL AFFAIRS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:332 ANSWERED ON:14.03.2012 CASUALTIES OF INDIANS IN SYRIA Gavit Shri Manikrao Hodlya

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of casualties of people of Indian origin reported till 29 February, 2012 in the violence erupted in Syria;
- (b) the action taken/being taken by the Union Government to provide security to the people of Indian origin in Syria; and
- (c) the total number of families of Indian origin living in Syria?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS(SHRIE. AHAMED)

- (a) There has been no casualty of people of Indian origin until 29 February 2012 in the violence in Syria.
- (b) Government continues to closely monitor the situation in Syria and take necessary steps for the safety and security of Indian nationals residing in there. Our Embassy in Syria is in close touch with the members of the Indian community and have been holding regular meetings to apprise them on the security situation and advise them to take due precautions. Ministry of External Affairs has issued a travel advisory to avoid all non-essential travel to Syria for the present.
- (c) There are approximately 1000 Indian nationals, including family members, in Syria. Approximately 100 of them have left Syria in the wake of violent incidents