

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1207
ANSWERED ON:21.03.2012
VIENNA CONVENTION FOR DIPLOMATS
Owaisi Shri Asaduddin

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the norms fixed under Vienna Convention Treaty to treat diplomats of other countries in any particular country;
- (b) whether there is increasing trend of harassment of Indian diplomats and officials in European countries as well as China;
- (c) if so, the number of such cases came to the notice of the Government during the last three years;
- (d) the number of cases in which India has protested against such harassment and the action taken by those countries; and
- (e) the steps taken or being taken by the Government to ensure that Indian diplomats and officials are not harassed on flimsy grounds?

Answer

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

- (a) The Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations, 1961 provides that the person of a Diplomatic Agent shall be inviolable. He shall not be liable to any form of arrest or detention. The Convention further provides that the receiving State shall treat a Diplomatic Agent with due respect and shall take all appropriate steps to prevent any attack on his person, freedom or dignity. Various other privileges and immunities of Diplomatic Agents are also detailed in this Convention.
- (b) No.
- (c) & (d) During the last three years, only two such cases involving Indian diplomats came to the notice of the Government and in both the cases, the matter was seriously raised with the Governments concerned who conveyed that they would ensure the safety and rights of diplomatic officers.
- (e) The Government is committed to ensuring that Indian diplomats and officials are treated with respect by all foreign States in accordance with the Vienna Conventions.