

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1317

ANSWERED ON:21.03.2012

VISITS BY DIGNITARIES

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Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of visits by foreign dignitaries to India during the last three months, till date;
- (b) the issues on which deliberations were held with each of the dignitaries;
- (c) whether any bilateral agreements were signed by them;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) the details of visits undertaken by the Prime Minister and the External Affairs Minister during the above period;
- (f) the details of discussions held and the outcome thereof; and
- (g) the steps taken by the Government to improve the bilateral relations with these countries?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) The foreign dignitaries who visited India during the last three months till date include the following: the President of Mali; the President of Kiribati; the President of Seychelles; the President of Finland; the President of the European Commission of the European Union and the President of European Council of the European Union; the Prime Minister of Bhutan; the Prime Minister of Japan; the Prime Minister of Trinidad & Tobago; the Prime Minister of Thailand; the Prime Minister of Mauritius; the Prime Minister of Bangladesh; the Prime Minister of Nepal; the Prime Minister of Kenya; the Queen Mother of Bhutan; the Foreign Minister of Thailand; the Foreign Minister of Myanmar; the Foreign Minister of Seychelles; the Foreign Minister of Italy; the Foreign Minister of China; the High Representative for Foreign Affairs of European Union; the President of UNGA; and the Special Representative of China.

During these visits, various issues relating to bilateral, regional and international matters were discussed by our Leaders with their counterpart dignitaries.

(c) & (d) The details of bilateral agreements signed during the above visits are given in the ANNEXURE.

(e) & (f) During the above period, the Prime Minister of India visited the Russian Federation. The Minister of External Affairs visited Israel, Palestine, Sri Lanka, China, Egypt and Singapore.

Issues in the bilateral, regional and international areas were discussed by our Leaders with their counterparts. A list of Agreements signed during these visits is given in the ANNEXURE.

(g) One of the major elements in the discussions with the visiting leaders as also during the outgoing visits related to the various steps taken towards the consolidation and development of bilateral relations with each of these countries. These are reflected in the agreements concluded during the visits. Effective follow up mechanism to implement the decisions arrived at in the discussions between the Leaders of India and the countries concerned is an important element in moving forward the relations with these countries.