

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3258
ANSWERED ON:25.04.2012
INDIAN TRADERS IN CHINA
Sivasami Shri C.

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is true that Indian traders who were freed from illegal custody of Chinese traders three months ago were not allowed to go to India;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to facilitate their return to India;
- (d) whether it is true that there has a demand to protect the interests of Indians in China due to increased commercial activities between these two countries; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a) to (e) Government has taken note of the incident and has raised this matter with the Chinese side on many occasions. The Chinese side has conveyed that they would ensure the safety of Indian nationals and businessmen in China. The matter was also raised by the External Affairs Minister during his meeting with the Chinese Foreign Minister in Beijing, New Delhi and Moscow in February, March and April 2012 respectively. The Chinese Foreign Minister conveyed that they are paying close attention to this case.