

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1210
ANSWERED ON:17.08.2012
KAILASH MANSAROVER YATRA
Thakur Shri Anurag Singh

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether pilgrims of Kailash Mansarover passes through Uttarakhand State at present;
- (b) if so, whether there is an alternative way from a place named Shipki La in Kinnour district of Himachal Pradesh for this pilgrimage; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and its comparison with the above route vis-a-vis expenditure involved, time taken etc.?

Answer

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

- (a) Yes, the pilgrims of the Kailash Manasarovar Yatra, organized by the Ministry of External Affairs, pass through Uttarakhand State.
- (b)&(c) The Government of India has been discussing with the Government of China the issue of opening additional routes to Kailash-Manasarovar since 1992, including through Shipki La. The Chinese side has cited difficulties in opening any alternate routes to Kailash-Manasarovar.