

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:83
ANSWERED ON:11.12.2013
PERMANENT MEMBERSHIP OF UNSC
Semmalai Shri S.

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the reforms that India has proposed for restructuring the United Nations/United Nations Security Council;
- (b) whether India is making efforts to secure permanent membership of the UNSC;
- (c) if so, the details thereof along with the names of the countries which have assured support for India's bid for permanent membership;
- (d) whether certain countries are opposed to India's bid for permanent membership; and
- (e) if so, the names of such countries and the details of steps taken to secure their support?

Answer

THE MINISTER FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHID)

(a) to (e) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 83 REGARDING "PERMANENT MEMBERSHIP OF UNSC" FOR ANSWER ON 11.12.2013

(a) to (e) India believes that the United Nations (UN) especially the Security Council must reflect contemporary global realities. For this purpose the reform of the UN including the expansion of the Security Council in both permanent and non-permanent categories is essential. India also holds the view that it has all the credentials to be a permanent member of an expanded Security Council. To this end, the Government of India has been actively working along with other like-minded countries for building support among the UN membership for a meaningful restructuring and expansion of the UN Security Council. India has, in collaboration with Brazil, Japan and Germany, together known as the G-4, proposed expansion of the membership of the UN Security Council from the present fifteen to twenty-five with the addition of six permanent and four non-permanent members, including from Asia, Africa and Latin America.

Separately India along with Brazil and South Africa are spearheading a group of around 42 pro-UNSC reform developing countries from Asia, Africa and Latin America – called the L.69 Group – which have demanded urgent action on the UNSC reform front. The L.69 has been engaged with the Committee of Ten (C-10) of the African Union with a view to harness the support of the 54 – member strong African Group.

A large number of countries have supported India's initiatives for reform of the Council as well as endorsed its candidature for permanent membership. This has been expressed in various forms and fora including in bilateral discussions with the Government of India. India's performance as a non-permanent member of the Security Council during 2011-2012 has also significantly strengthened India's claim to permanent membership.

There is a small minority of countries known as the Uniting for Consensus (UFC) [comprising Argentina, Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, Italy, Malta, Mexico, Pakistan, Republic of Korea, San Marino, Spain and Turkey] that would like to see expansion in only the non-permanent category and is opposed to any expansion of permanent seats.

The Government of India has strongly put across to the international community India's case for permanent membership of the Security Council which is based on India's extensive contribution to the activities of the UN particularly the maintenance of international peace and security. This has resulted in strong support for our permanent membership from countries across the world. Ultimately, if there is agreement on expansion of the UNSC, individual members will be chosen on the basis of 2/3rd support of the entire membership and as per the provisions of the UN Charter.