

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1059

ANSWERED ON:11.12.2013

MEETING OF ENVOYS

Chavan Shri Harischandra Deoram; Ramasubbu Shri S.

**Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government has recently convened a meeting of all its envoys;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the highlights of the issues discussed;
- (c) whether the issue of terrorism and mutual relationship with various countries figured in the conclave;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken by the government to further improve our relations with various countries?

**Answer**

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

(a) Yes.

(b) The 5th Heads of Mission's Conference was held in New Delhi from 4-7 November, 2013, with the theme "India's place in a changing world order: Where do we see ourselves? What do we wish to achieve?". Over 115 Heads of Mission from all over the globe participated in the Conference and deliberated on a range of issues relevant to India's Foreign Policy objectives and priorities. The Conference was formally inaugurated by Prime Minister on 4th November, 2013 and the Heads of Mission were addressed by Rashtrapati on 6th November and by Vice President on 5th November, besides interacting with a host of other dignitaries and experts.

(c) Yes.

(d) The deliberations at the Heads of Mission's Conference covered the entire gamut of India's multifaceted bilateral, regional and multilateral engagement in the context of the changing world order. India's external security scenario and the international cooperation on counter-terrorism was also discussed.

(e) It is a constant and continuous endeavour to achieve our foreign policy objectives predicated on our national priorities of sustained, rapid and inclusive socio-economic development to fully realize the potential of our citizens. To this end, we are engaged on a bilateral, regional and multilateral basis with all our partners to advance our foreign policy goals in an atmosphere of peace, security and stability and to garner an appropriate role for India in keeping with its standing in a changing international environment.