

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3398  
ANSWERED ON:12.02.2014  
COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES IN AMERICAN EMBASSY  
Bais Shri Ramesh;Manjhi Shri Hari

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

- (a) whether commercial activities like gym, restaurant, etc. are allegedly being run in the American Embassy in New Delhi;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Embassy has been asked to stop commercial activities within its premises;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the response of the American Embassy in this regard?

**Answer**

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

- (a) & (b) The Government has seen reports regarding commercial activities allegedly being run inside the premises of U.S. Embassy in New Delhi, including some restaurants/bars, a video club, a beauty parlour, a coffee shop and sports facilities.
- (c) On 6 January 2014, Ministry of External Affairs requested the U.S. Embassy to stop all commercial activities are in violation of the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations.
- (d) & (e) The U.S. Embassy has conveyed that the American Community Support Association, a not-for-profit employee association, operates recreational facilities within the Embassy premises. The American Community Support Association also facilitates small number of Indian firms providing services within the mission premises for the convenience of the Embassy employees and these firms are required to comply with Indian law.