

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3261
ANSWERED ON:09.12.2009
REPRESENTATIVE OF OIC FOR JAMMU AND KASHMIR
Adityanath Shri Yogi

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Organisation of Islamic Countries (OIC) have appointed a representative for Jammu and Kashmir;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (DR. SHASHI THAROOR)

(a) Yes.

(b) The Organization of Islamic Conference (OIC) Contact Group on Jammu and Kashmir met on September 28, 2009 on the sidelines of 64th UN General Assembly session in New York and announced the appointment of OIC's Special Envoy on Kashmir.

(c) The Government of India has issued a strong rebuttal in response to the OIC resolution stating that "It is regrettable that the OIC has commented on India's internal affairs. We condemn and reject this. Inherent in OIC's statements and actions on the issue of Jammu and Kashmir is a complete inability to understand India's position. Jammu and Kashmir is an integral part of India and it is our firm position that the OIC has no locus standi in matters concerning India's internal affairs." We have also conveyed bilaterally to several OIC members that the passage of such resolutions is not helpful.