

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4203
ANSWERED ON:16.12.2009
TRANSPARENCY INTERNATIONAL
Deshmukh Shri K. D.;Kumar Shri P.

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Transparency International (T.I.) India has asked the Government to ratify the United Nations Convention against Corruption;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the main provisions of the Convention;
- (c) the extent of corruption prevailing in the country as per the report of T.I.;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to sign the Convention to recover assets and money stashed by Indians in countries like Switzerland; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI S.M. KRISHNA)

(a) & (b) Transparency International (India) had urged Government to consider ratifying the United Nations Convention Against Corruption. The salient provisions of this Convention are as follow:

- i. Defines and standardizes legal terms;
- ii. Requires State Parties to develop corruption prevention measures involving both public and private sectors;
- iii. Requires State Parties to establish specific offences as crimes;
- iv. Calls for international cooperation, inter alia, through extradition, mutual legal assistance and joint investigations;
- v. Provides for asset recovery;
- vi. Provides for training, research and information sharing measures;
- vii. Contains technical provisions relating to signature and ratification.

(c) According to the annual report of 2009 on 'Corruption Perception Index' published by Transparency International, India was placed at 84th rank amongst 180 countries.

(d) & (e) India has signed the United Nations Convention Against Corruption on 09 December 2005.