GOVERNMENT OF INDIA EXTERNAL AFFAIRS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4223 ANSWERED ON:16.12.2009 INDIA-NEPAL RELATIONS Pal Shri Jagdambika

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has failed to maintain their age old relations with Nepal after the establishment of Maoists' Government in Nepal;
- (b) if so, the steps taken by the Government for the security of Indians living in Nepal in the light of attacks committed by Nepalese Maoists;
- (c) whether the Government are aware of the anti-Indian activities that are continued in Nepal after the establishment of Maoists' Government in Nepal; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

- (a) Our relationship with Nepal is close, traditional, time-tested and covers a broad canvas. India maintained good relations with the government led by Maoist leader Mr. Pushpa Kamal Dahal 'Prachanda'. He paid an official visit to India as the then Prime Minister of Nepal from 14-17 September 2008, and met our President, Vice President, Prime Minister, and External Affairs Minister and the Leader of Opposition. During the visit the two countries reiterated the special features of the bilateral relationship and committed themselves to work towards further improving relations. Both sides agreed to reactivate the existing bilateral mechanisms.
- (b) The safety and security of Indian citizens abroad is an abiding and central concern of the Government of India. Every reported case of attacks on Indians is taken up with the Nepalese authorities and our concerns are fully expressed.
- (c) & (d) As an open and free society, Nepal has people of various persuasions, some of whom may not prefer close relations between the two countries. During the visit of Mr. Madhav Kumar Nepal, Prime Minister of Nepal to India from August 18 22, 2009, the Nepalese side assured that it would not allow its territory to be used for any activity against India.