

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3912  
ANSWERED ON:17.12.2014  
MEDIA ENTOURAGE WITH PM  
Chinnaraj Shri Gopalakrishnan;P. Shri Nagarajan

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

(a) whether any criteria has been laid down by the Government for the media entourage with the PM on his foreign visits and if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the list of journalists who accompanied the PM on his foreign visits during the last three years, year-wise along with the expenses incurred thereon?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS [GEN. (DR) V. K. SINGH (RETD)]

(a) In order to keep the public well-informed about the main elements of the visit and the impact it will have on our foreign relations; major news organizations are selected to accompany the Prime Minister. We request all major news organizations/agencies such as Doordarshan, AIR, Photo Division, Film Division and news agencies-PTI, UNI and ANI TV; to send their nominations. The media organizations/agencies are requested to nominate a representative having wide experience in foreign affairs and issues relevant to the particular visit. Individual journalists are not selected by any Ministry or Government office. The media persons are nominated by the concerned department/media organization. Apart from the above, there are other media persons who travel on their own.

(b) The list of journalists (with their organization details) who accompanied Prime Minister on foreign trips since the last three years is at annexure. This list is also available on the website of Ministry of External Affairs- [www.mea.gov.in](http://www.mea.gov.in) under 'Visits' (sub-heading 'Outgoing Visits') on the main web-page. There is no extra expenditure incurred by the government.