

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4102
ANSWERED ON:17.12.2014
INDO-AFRICA MEET
M. Smt. Vasanthi

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Indo-Africa meet scheduled to be held in December this year has been deferred;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether any alternate date has been fixed for the said meet; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a) Yes.

(b) The outbreak and swift spread of Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) in parts of Africa resulted in a situation, which required strong logistical arrangements to screen against the possible entry of the deadly virus into India. The World Health Organisation also issued advisories for screening and quarantine requirements for travellers from the affected parts of Africa. Since it was decided to invite all African countries with which India has diplomatic relations to the 3rd India-Africa Forum Summit, it was considered difficult to implement the screening and quarantine requirements for all the participants which would have included high-level delegations, media persons and business delegations. The Government, therefore, decided to defer the 3rd India-Africa Forum Summit till EVD is contained in the interest of having an inclusive Summit with arrangements that would be in keeping with the dignity of the visitors.

(c) No; and

(d) Does not arise