

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:35

ANSWERED ON:25.02.2015

PERMANENT SEAT IN UNSC

Lokhande Shri Sadashiv Kisan;Maganti Shri Murali Mohan

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

- (a) whether several initiatives have been undertaken by India in order to secure a permanent seat in the United Nations Security Council and full membership in the Nuclear Suppliers Group and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the said issue was discussed during the recent visit of the President of the United States (US) and if so, the response of the US thereto;
- (c) whether China has reportedly opposed the endeavour by India and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to augment the efforts to garner enough support from other countries?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ)

(a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 35 REGARDING "PERMANENT SEAT IN UNSC" FOR ANSWER ON 25.02.2015

(a) India has taken a series of initiatives at bilateral and multilateral levels on UN Security Council Reform and securing India's permanent membership in a reformed UNSC. These encompass actively campaigning for UNSC reform through both the G4 (Group of Four – India, Japan, Brazil and Germany) and the L.69 Group (cross regional grouping of developing countries) in the ongoing Intergovernmental Negotiations (IGN) process underway at the United Nations.

India is engaged with the Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG) and with individual members thereof with a view to our membership. India will formally apply for membership once the ground has been adequately prepared for this.

(b) Yes. The issue of UNSC Reforms was discussed during the recent State visit to India of the President of the United States. As in the past, President Obama reiterated US support for India's permanent membership of a reformed UNSC. During the state visit, the U.S. has affirmed that India is ready for NSG membership.

(c) The issue of UNSC Reforms has been taken up with China on several occasions, bilaterally and on multilateral platforms. Most recently, the RIC (Russia, India and China) Joint Communiqué dated 2 February 2015 and issued at the 13th Meeting of the respective Foreign Ministers in Beijing 'reiterated the importance they (RIC) attached to the status of India in international affairs and supported its aspiration to play a greater role in the United Nations'.

On NSG, Government has taken note of a press briefing on 26 January, 2015 by Government of China regarding its views on India's membership of NSG. The Chinese side has, inter- alia, noted the commitment and efforts made by India in non-proliferation. They have maintained that India's accession to NSG is an important issue for the group, which should be put through prudent deliberation of all member states of NSG.

(d) In September 2014, the G4 underscored their continuous commitment to a Security Council reform reflective of the geopolitical realities of the 21st century, and, in this regard invited member states to use the 70th anniversary of the UN in 2015 as an opportunity to finally achieve a concrete outcome on the Security Council reform process.

In addition, India has also taken up the subject of UNSC Reforms and sought other countries support for the same at the highest levels of our leadership, both during incoming and outgoing bilateral and multilateral visits.