

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6556
ANSWERED ON:06.05.2015
OPENING MORE EMBASSIES
Chavan Shri Harishchandra Deoram

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to open more Indian consulates/embassies abroad in order to expand economic ties as well as for coordination;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, country-wise;
- (c) the number of Indian consulates/embassies closed down by the Government during the last ten years in various foreign countries, country-wise;
- (d) whether there is any proposal to re-open any of these embassies; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof along with the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

- (a) & (b) Government of India is committed to expanding economic ties with other countries including through opening consulates/embassies, based on its assessment of logistical and other relevant factors.
- (c) Indian Consulate in Songkhla in the Kingdom of Thailand was closed down.
- (d) & (e) There is no proposal for re-opening of the Indian Consulate in Songkhla in the Kingdom of Thailand.