

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2411
ANSWERED ON:06.08.2003
CONSTRUCTION OF EMBASSY COMPLEX IN BRAZIL
SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWASI

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) Whether the C&AG in its report No. 2 of 2001 has indicated his Ministry for not taking any decision in regard to the construction of the Embassy complex on a plot gifted by Brazil in 1965;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the total rent so far paid by the Ministry for running its embassy in Brazil;
- (d) whether the Government have drawn up a time frame for construction of Embassy in Brazil; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the time by which this project is likely to be completed?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH)

- (a) Yes.
- (b) Implementation of the construction project has been affected due to various reasons over the years. These include the economy drive of the Government of India in the aftermath of the Bangladesh war, the oil crisis, freeze on construction after the Gulf war, etc. Owing to the high cost of land development, it was also not possible to establish the economic viability of the construction project
- (c) A sum of Rs.13.85 crores has been paid in rentals for the Chancery, Embassy Residence and other residences from 1982 till date.
- (d & e) The Ministry has drawn up a time-frame for the construction project and is conscious of the need to ensure speedy completion of the project. Three Brasilia-based architects have submitted concept designs and models for the construction project, out of which one will be selected for implementation.