

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2902

ANSWERED ON:10.05.2006

PERMANENT MEMBERSHIP IN UNSC

Khan Shri Mohammad Tahir;Rawat Shri Ashok Kumar;Shiwankar Shri Maha Deo Rao

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government had held any negotiations with the US regarding securing permanent membership in the UN Security Council during the recent visit of US President to India;
- (b) if so, the reaction of the US thereto;
- (c) the names of the countries which have supported our claim for UNSC; and
- (d) the details of efforts made/being made by India in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI ANAND SHARMA)

- (a) No, Sir. The issue of India's candidature for permanent membership in the UN Security Council did not come up for discussion during the visit of the US President to India in March 2006.
- (b) Does not arise.
- (c) & (d) There has been a steady accretion of support to India's candidature since it was announced in 1994. Support for India's candidature has been expressed in various forms and fora. Some countries have expressed support confidentially in bilateral discussions with Government of India. The Government continues its engagement with other member states of the UN on the issue of reform and expansion of the UN Security Council, in both permanent and non-permanent categories of membership and its efforts to mobilize further support for India's candidature for a permanent seat of the UNSC.