

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2905
ANSWERED ON:10.05.2006
OPENING MEA SECRETARIATS IN STATE CAPITALS
Panda Shri Prabodh

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government is considering to open Secretariats of the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) in all the State Capitals;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the time by which a decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED)

(a) to (c) Ministry of External Affairs is considering opening of its secretariat in more states which have substantial international interaction.

The proposal is at the stage of consultations with state governments and others concerned and seeking approvals. In view of these reasons, it is not possible to indicate an exact time frame for a decision on this subject.