

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO- 401**  
ANSWERED ON- 28/11/2024

**RESOLUTION OF ISSUES WITH CANADA**

401. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI

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

- (a) the steps taken for resolving issues with Canada;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the Government of Canada has expressed its inability to provide minimum security to our embassy, consulates and diplomats, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the growing importance of India globally and our close relations with Russia has anything to do with countries like Canada (of the US block) going harder against us, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the details regarding the extent to which India is dependent on Canada for the progress and development?

**ANSWER**

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

- (a) The two Governments are in touch regarding the state of their bilateral ties. Respect for each other's concerns, territorial integrity and sovereignty are essential for a stable bilateral relationship. In this regard, Government of India has repeatedly urged the Canadian Government to take prompt and effective action against anti-India elements operating from its soil. This includes preventing secessionist and extremist elements from glorifying the assassination of our leaders; issuing threats to our current political leadership and diplomats; disrespecting and vandalizing places of worship; and espousing for the balkanization of India by holding so-called "referendums".
- (b) While the Canadian authorities have been able to provide security protection to our diplomats and diplomatic properties, they have recently expressed their inability to provide security cover to our Consular Camps from the violent acts of secessionist and extremist elements. This has prevented our diplomats and consular officers to render much-sought after consular and passport-related services at camps specially organized with the help of the community members for the benefit of Indian as well as Canadian citizens, particularly senior citizens / retirees who seek "life certificates" to get their pensions.
- (c) Our approach towards engagement with our international partners has always been constructive and sincere with emphasis on mutual trust, respect and understanding of each other's concerns. From India's perspective, each of its bilateral relationships, stands on its own merit, and is independent of relations with other countries.

(d) With nearly 1.8 million Indo-Canadians (accounting for about 4.7% of Canada's population) and another 1 million comprising of non-resident Indians including approximately 427,000 Indian students, Canada hosts one of the largest Indian diasporas abroad. As such, the welfare, safety and security of Indian nationals in Canada is of utmost importance to Government of India. The India-Canada bilateral trade is \$9.36 billion (2023), with India's exports to Canada at \$5.56 billion and imports from Canada at \$3.8 billion. On the investment side, India's share of Canadian Pension Funds is estimated at about 25% of their Asia-Pacific investment portfolio. Canada is the 17<sup>th</sup> largest investor in India with a cumulative FDI of \$3.9 billion.

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