

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-197  
ANSWERED ON- 02/02/2024**

**EAM VISIT TO IRAN**

**197. DR. SUKANTA MAJUMDAR  
SHRI VINOD KUMAR SONKAR  
SHRI RAJA AMARESHWARA NAIK  
SHRI BHOLA SINGH**

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

- (a) whether the External Affairs Minister (EAM) recently visited Iran amid the global tension over the attacks carried out by Houthi rebels in the Red Sea;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) whether the EAM Met Foreign Minister of Iran and held discussions on bilateral, regional and global issues in line with “Political cooperation, connectivity initiatives and strong people-to-people ties;**
- (d) if so, the details thereof;**
- (e) whether the EAM has also discussed boosting regional connectivity through the Chabahar Port as it is located in the Sistan-Balochistan province on the energy-rich Iran’s southern coast; and**
- (f) the major achievements of the said trip of Iran by the EAM ?**

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
(SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN)**

**(a to f) External Affairs Minister (EAM) visited Iran on 14-15 January 2024. During the visit, he called on the President of Iran H.E. Dr. Seyyed Ebrahim Raisi, and held meetings with Foreign Minister Dr. Hossein Amir-Abdollahian, Minister of Roads and Urban Development Mehرداد Bazrpash, and Secretary of Supreme National Security Council Dr. Ali Akbar Ahmadian.**

**In the meeting with Foreign Minister of Iran, various aspects of bilateral relations including political cooperation, people-to-people ties and**

**connectivity initiatives were discussed. The two leaders appreciated the regular high-level interactions between India and Iran. They discussed ways to strengthen the ongoing cultural and educational linkages between the two countries. They also discussed matters related to the development of Chabahar Port and International North-South Transport Corridor to facilitate trade and transport connectivity between Eurasia, Central Asia, Afghanistan and the Indian subcontinent.**

**The two sides exchanged perspectives and assessments on certain regional and global issues and developments. They expressed concern about the recent events in West Asia and emphasised the importance of preventing further escalation of violence and hostilities. Both sides also discussed the issue of increased threats to the safety of maritime commercial traffic in the region, which is a matter of concern to the international community and has a direct bearing on India's energy and economic interests. In addition, they also exchanged views on the developments in Afghanistan, Ukraine, and the Caucasus.**

**The visit provided an opportunity to further strengthen the bilateral relations with Iran.**

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