#### MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

## LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2603 TO BE ANSWERED ON 04.12.2019

# **VISIT BY GERMAN CHANCELLOR**

# 2603. ADV. A.M. ARIFF:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the German Chancellor has visited India recently and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether both the countries have reviewed their bilateral relations and if so, the details and the outcome thereof;
- (c) whether the German Chancellor has shown concern about Kashmir; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

## ANSWER

# THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS [SHRI **V. MURALEEDHARAN**]

(a) & (b) Dr. Angela Merkel, German Chancellor visited India for the  $5^{th}$  Inter Governmental Consultations (IGC) on  $1^{st}$  November 2019 at New Delhi. She was accompanied by a high level delegation consisting of Ministers and Secretaries as well as a Business Delegation.

The IGC provided an opportunity not only to take stock of the growing ties between the two countries, but also to discuss further deepening of cooperation in traditional sectors such as Development Cooperation, Transport, Skill Development, and Energy, and to explore possibilities for cooperation in newer areas like Green Urban Mobility, Artificial Intelligence and Clean Environment Projects.

During this visit, 22 bilateral MoUs/Agreements were signed in the fields of Artificial Intelligence, Railways, Space, Smart Cities, Green Urban Mobility, Skill Development, Higher Education, Agriculture, Marine Litter, Civil Aviation, etc.

(c) & (d) All issues of bilateral, regional and international importance, were discussed during the meeting. Government of India's position was clearly conveyed on recent developments in Jammu and Kashmir.

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