GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO- 4356

ANSWERED ON- 20/12/2024

BILATERAL TIES WITH US AND CANADA

4356. SHRI MANISH TEWARI

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

- (a) whether the Union Government has taken note of the recent developments in criminal cases allegedly involving Indian citizens/officials in the United States and Canada;
- (b) if so, the impact these cases are likely to have on India's bilateral relations with these countries;
- (c) whether the Government has engaged diplomatically with the Governments of the United States and Canada to address concerns regarding these cases, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the measures taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to ensure the safety of Indian nationals residing in the US and Canada, particularly in the light of any potential fallout of these matters?

ANSWER

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

(a to d) Government is aware of the allegations about the involvement of Indian nationals in purported acts or intent in the U.S. and Canada. As part of ongoing security cooperation with the United States, certain inputs shared by the U.S. side pertaining to the nexus between organized criminals, gun runners, terrorists and others that impinge on India's national security interests as well are being examined by a High-Level Enquiry Committee that has been constituted for this purpose. In so far as Canada is concerned, it has presented no evidence whatsoever in support of the serious allegations it has chosen to level. In addition, its public narrative on this issue appears to be in service of an anti-India separatist agenda. Persisting with such a narrative can only be harmful for any stable bilateral relationship. Government have therefore repeatedly urged the Canadian authorities to take action against anti-India elements operating from their soil.

The welfare, safety and security of Indian nationals who are living, working and studying in the US and Canada remains of utmost importance to the Government of India. Issues faced by Indian

nationals in the US and Canada are brought to the attention of relevant authorities, whenever they arise, for swift redressal.
