GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2782 TO BE ANSWERED ON 03.08.2016

RESTRUCTURING OF UNSC

2782. SHRI ANIL SHIROLE:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the reforms that India has proposed for restructuring the United Nations/United Nations Security Council (UNSC);
- (b) whether India is making efforts to secure permanent membership of the UNSC;
- (c) if so, the details thereof along with the names of the countries which have assured support for India's bid for permanent membership;
- (d) whether certain countries are opposed to India's bid for permanent membership; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the names of such countries and the details of steps taken to secure their support?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI M. J. AKBAR)

(a) to (e) India has all the credentials to be a permanent member in a reformed UN Security Council (UNSC) that reflects contemporary global realities. Government is of the view that early reforms of the Security Council is an essential element in the overall efforts to reform the United Nations – in order to make it more broadly representative, efficient, transparent, and to further enhance its effectiveness, and the legitimacy and implementation of its decisions. The expansion in both the permanent and non-permanent category of memberships will be an essential element of the reforms of the UNSC.

A series of initiatives involving bilateral and multilateral platforms has been undertaken by the Government in pursuance of permanent membership in an expanded Security Council. India is actively engaged in the ongoing Intergovernmental Negotiations on UNSC reform at the UN. Further, we are working alongside other reform-oriented countries through the G-4 (India, Japan, Brazil and Germany) and the L.69 Group (a cross regional grouping of developing countries). A large number of countries have supported India's candidature for permanent membership in an expanded UN Security Council. This has been expressed in various forms and fora including in bilateral discussions with the Government of India. India's performance as a non-permanent member of the Security Council during 2011-12 has also significantly strengthened India's claim to permanent membership.

There is a small minority of countries known as the Uniting for Consensus (UfC) that includes Argentina, Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, Italy, Malta, Mexico, Pakistan, Republic of Korea, San Marino, Spain and Turkey, that would like to see expansion of the UNSC in only the non-permanent category and is opposed to an expansion of permanent membership altogether.