GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.618 TO BE ANSWERED ON 20.07.2016

ATTACK ON INDIANS

618. KUMARI SUSHMITA DEV: SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware that the recent spate of attacks against the African community in India and reprisal attacks against Indians in Africa has invited Global attention;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and whether the Union Government has failed in preventing such attacks on Africans;
- (c) If so, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to ensure safety of students from Africa in various parts of the country?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c) The recent incidents relating to the members of African community in India were not premeditated acts against a particular community. These were spontaneous attacks perpetrated by anti-social and criminal elements. Two of the three perpetrators of the killing of Congolese national were swiftly apprehended. Government of Democratic Republic of Congo also acted swiftly to control reprisal attacks against Indians in Kinshasa. India's historical relations with Africa rest on the foundation of brotherhood and solidarity and such incidents cannot be allowed to deflect from India's historical friendship and close development partnership with Africa.

(d) Ministry of External Affairs proactively reached out to the African diplomatic and student community. It was requested that police patrolling be increased in areas where sizeable African community resides. It has also been decided to hold regular meetings with the African community in all major metropolitan cities. The State governments, having large numbers of African nationals, have also been requested to take steps to ensure their safety and security.

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