

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.399
TO BE ANSWERED ON 04.02.2021

**DEPICTING J&K AND LADAKH IN A DIFFERENT COLOUR
IN THE MAP ON WHO WEBSITE**

399. SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a map of India on the website of World Health Organization (WHO) is depicting the Union Territories of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh in a totally different colour;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government of India has lodged any protest with WHO in this regard; and
- (d) if so, the steps taken by Government to ensure that such incidents may not recur in future?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (d) The issue of wrong depiction of the map of India on World Health Organization (WHO) website has been raised strongly with WHO including at the highest level. In response, the WHO has informed the Permanent Mission of India in Geneva that they have put a disclaimer on the portal saying “The designations employed and the presentation of these materials do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of WHO concerning the legal status of any country, territory or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. Dotted and dashed lines on maps represent approximate border lines for which there may not yet be full agreement.” Nevertheless, Government of India’s position on the right depiction of its boundaries has been unambiguously reiterated.
