

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1356
TO BE ANSWERED ON 09.12.2021

FORMAL INTERACTION WITH MEMBERS OF THE US CONGRESS

1356. SHRI K. SOMAPRASAD:

Will the Minister of **External Affairs** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is likely to conduct a formal interaction between Members of Parliament in India and the Members of the US Congress, if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) whether any action plan has been formulated to enhance co-operation between India and US following the Congressional delegation (CODEL) visit in November 2019, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

- (a) India and USA have been regularly exchanging visits of Parliamentarians.

Pursuant to the bilateral 2+2 Ministerial Dialogue, in December 2019, India and USA announced the establishment of an annual Parliamentary Exchange featuring Members of the India Caucus in the United States Congress and Parliamentarians from India. As India and USA are mature democracies with strong legislative branches, the Parliamentary Exchange has been envisaged as a crucial platform through which lawmakers from both nations would exchange perspectives and enhance mutual understanding on issues of common interest, to further deepen and strengthen the India-US comprehensive global strategic partnership.

- (b) There was no visit by a U.S. Congressional delegation to India in November 2019. Both countries look forward to continuing the regular interactions between our respective Parliamentarians, which have been mutually beneficial.
