

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO- 2786
ANSWERED ON- 19/12/2024

STRATEGIES FOR STRENGTHENING INDIA'S FOREIGN POLICY

2786. SHRI VIVEK K. TANKHA

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

- (a) Whether Government has any plans to strengthen and equip the Policy Planning and Research (PP&R) Division of the Ministry to expand its engagement with think-tanks, academia, and civil society both nationally and internationally;
- (b) Whether Government has outlined strategies to develop new global flagship platforms like the Raisina Dialogue and elevate them to the prominence of international benchmarks such as the Shangri-La Dialogue or Munich Security Conference; and
- (c) Whether government plans to build a robust interface with external stakeholders, including civil-society and corporate sectors, to incorporate diverse perspectives into India's foreign policy formulation and narrative building?

ANSWER

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

(a to c) The Policy Planning and Research (PP&R) Division of MEA has extensive and robust cooperation with a large network of think tanks and academic institutions. It extends annual budgetary support to several autonomous think tanks, the Indian Council of World Affairs (ICWA) and the Research and Information Systems for Developing Countries (RIS) to carry out their research and other related activities. It also supports Track 1.5 and Track 2.0 Dialogues/Conferences by various think tanks and academic and research institutions in relevant domains. The Ministry participates in and supports major foreign policy outreach initiatives and conferences, including the Raisina Dialogue, Indian Ocean Conference, Global Technology Summit and the Asia Economic Dialogue. These conferences have significant international participation, including from senior Ministers, government officials, and representatives of industry and civil society. Some of these foreign policy outreach initiatives have also grown in stature and profile to be among the leading global conferences on international affairs.
