

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:243
ANSWERED ON:10.08.2005
MFN STATUS TO INDIA
Ahir Shri Hansraj Gangaram

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Pakistan has decided to give the status of Most Favoured Nation(MFN) to India;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS(SHRI E. AHAMED)

(a) to (d) A statement is placed on the Table of the House.

Statement with reference to part (a) to (d) in reply to the Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 243 (Priority III) for answer on 10.08.05 regarding `MFN status to India`

Pakistan has so far not granted (MFN) status to India despite its obligations, including under the WTO, and has cited extraneous political and other reasons for this. The matter of grant of Most Favoured Nation status by Pakistan to India has been raised repeatedly with Pakistan.

Government have drawn attention to Pakistan`s obligation to grant MFN Status to India, and that this step would serve as an indicator of Pakistan`s intention to improve bilateral and regional economic cooperation, and to have normal trade and economic relations with India.