GOVERNMENT OF INDIA HOME AFFAIRS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3897 ANSWERED ON:24.08.2004 BORDER FENCING Singh Chaudhary Lal

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is negotiating with Pakistan to open ways/roads for public in the State of J&K beyond to L.O.C.;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the steps taken by the Government to curb militancy through open gates;
- (c) whether the Government of Pakistan is also contributing in respect of fencing the border or if any such proposals from them under negotiation with the Government; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL)

(a)&(b): India had, on October 22,2003, inter alia, proposed to Pakistan the commencement of a bus service between Srinagar and Muzaffarabad. The technical level discussions that were scheduled to be held in Islamabad on April 8-9, 2004 were postponed after mutual consultations. The issue was also raised during the meeting of Foreign Secretaries of India and Pakistan on June 27-28,2004 in New Delhi. During this meeting, India also proposed a number of measures of cooperation, including trade, people to people contact and additional communication links, across the LOC.

India has made it clear to Pakistan that to take forward the present process of cooperation, confidence building and dialogue, violence, hostility and terrorism must be prevented.

- (c): No Sir.
- (d): Does not arise.