GOVERNMENT OF INDIA EXTERNAL AFFAIRS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5905 ANSWERED ON:04.05.2005 ENCROACHING INTO INDIAN TERRITORIAL WATERS Athawale Shri Ramdas

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether encroaching into Indian Territorial waters in the Arabian Sea has come to the notice of the Government;
- (b) if so, whether the Government has taken up this issue at various international fora; and
- (c) if so, the outcome thereof?

Answer

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

- (a) Yes Sir. The India-Pakistan maritime boundary, which extends from the mouth of the Sir Creek seawards into the Arabian Sea, has not been delimited as yet. However, pursuant to Pakistan's Territorial Waters and Maritime Zones Act 1976, the Government of Pakistan issued a notification dated 29 August 1996, specifying the coordinates for drawing of straight baselines, the Eastern part of which encroaches upon Indian territorial waters.
- (b) and (c) India registered its protest with Pakistan and the United Nations, unequivocally rejecting as unacceptable the coordinate point (k) 23(33(.90(N 68 07.80 E of Pakistan's baselines, as it `...encroaches upon the territorial waters of India which are within its sovereign jurisdiction'.