

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2039
ANSWERED ON:06.12.2005
HOME SECRETARY LEVEL TALKS WITH PAKISTAN
Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Home Secretary level talks between India and Pakistan on terrorism and drug trafficking were held recently;
- (b) if so, the details of the issues discussed with Pakistan;
- (c) whether the Indian side raised security concern and urged Pakistan to widen cooperation in combating the menace of terrorism;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the response of the Pakistan on the various issues raised by India?

Answer

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

(a) to (e): The Home Secretary level Talks between India and Pakistan on `Terrorism and Drug Trafficking` were held in New Delhi on August 29-30, 2005. During the talks, the Pakistani side was asked to take effective steps to dismantle the infrastructure of terror in their territory as also against terrorist outfits operating from across the border in J&K and elsewhere. In addition, issues relating to the need for cooperative arrangements between the CBI and the Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) of Pakistan, release of prisoners including fishermen, providing prompt consular access to prisoners, extradition/deportation of fugitives from Indian law who continue to be sheltered in Pakistan, finalization of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the drug enforcement agencies of the two countries on drug control matters were also discussed.

Both sides reiterated their commitment to combat terrorism and re-emphasized the need for effective steps for the complete elimination of this menace. Both sides underlined the need for cooperation between the CBI and the FIA and agreed to take further necessary steps in this regard. There was also an agreement to provide consular access to prisoners within three months of arrest and release prisoners immediately after completion of sentence and nationality verification. It was also agreed that the MoU between the narcotics control agencies of both countries will be finalized and signed shortly.