

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:437

ANSWERED ON:22.02.2006

TRAIN SERVICE BETWEEN INDIA AND PAKISTAN

Nayak Shri Ananta;Patel Shri Kishanbhai Vestabhai;Sugavanam Shri E.G.

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

- (a) whether India and Pakistan have agreed to start train service between Munnabao in Rajasthan and Khokhrapar in Pakistan;
- (b) if so, the details of the terms and conditions thereof;
- (c) the steps taken to check illegal activities in this sector;
- (d) whether freight service is also proposed to be introduced in the above route;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the time by which the said service is likely to be introduced?

**Answer**

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

(a) - (c) During the visit of President Musharraf to New Delhi in April 2005, India and Pakistan decided to re-establish a train service between Munabao in Rajasthan and Khokhrapar in Pakistan by January 1, 2006. The train known as the Thar Express commenced service from 18 February 2006. Government remains fully vigilant and takes all necessary steps to safeguard India's security and national interests.

(d) No.

(e) - (f) Does not arise.