

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:172
ANSWERED ON:01.12.2004
SITUATION IN NANKANA SAHIB
Pathak Shri Brajesh

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the sentiments of the Indian masses including Sikh community have been badly hurt due to the destructive incident by some fundamentalists in Nankana Sahib, the birth place of Guru Nanak Devji, situated in Pakistan in September, 2004;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Union Government has expressed its concern by taking this matter up with Pakistan;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

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

(a) to (e) Government are aware of the incident involving attack on Gurudwara Nankana Sahib in September 2004. A number of communications condemning the attack have also been received from different quarters in India.

The Government took immediate notice of reports of the attack on Gurudwara Nankana Sahib, and the official spokesperson of Ministry of External Affairs, in a statement made on September 28, 2004, had expressed the hope that the Government of Pakistan would take the necessary measures for the protection of this holy shrine. The matter was also taken up with the Pakistan High Commission in New Delhi, and our High Commission in Islamabad raised the issue with the Pakistan Foreign Office.

The Government of Pakistan also condemned the incident and further stated that the miscreants would be firmly dealt with in accordance with law.