

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:352
ANSWERED ON:07.07.2004
REVIVAL OF TRAINING CAMPS IN POK
Surendran Shri Chengara

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

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- (a) whether the terrorist training camps have been revived to train a large number of ultras in PoK as reported in the Indian Express dated June 21, 2004;
- (b) if so, the veracity or otherwise of the matter reported therein; (
- (c) whether the matter has been taken up with Pakistan; and
- (d) if so, the outcome thereof ?

Answer

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

(a) to (d) In the Joint Press Statement of January 6, 2004, President of Pakistan Gen. Musharraf had reassured that he will not permit any territory under Pakistan's control to be used to support terrorism in any manner. Since the November 25, 2003 ceasefire along the International Border, LoC and the Actual Ground Position Line (AGPL) in Jammu and Kashmir, there has been decline in infiltration. However, Pakistan has so far not taken any credible steps to dismantle the infrastructure of support to terrorism in that country. Recent reports suggest efforts in the context of reviving some training camps and launching pads. India has consistently emphasized to Pakistan the need to put an end to cross border infiltration and terrorism into India, and to dismantle the infrastructure of support to terrorism in that country on a permanent basis. The matter was also raised during the Foreign Secretary level talks that were held in New Delhi on June 27 -28, 2004. The Joint Statement issued on June 28 elaborated that the two Foreign Secretaries exchanged views on carrying the process forward in an atmosphere free from terrorism and violence.