

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2143
ANSWERED ON:16.03.2005
HANDING OVER JINNAH HOUSE TO PAKISTAN
Madhwaraj Smt. Manorama;Owaisi Shri Asaduddin;Singh Shri Mohan

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government is in possession of the house of Mohd. Ali Jinnah in Mumbai;
- (b) if so, the purpose for which it is used by the Government at present ;
- (c) whether Pakistan has requested the Union Government to hand over the said house for its use ;
- (d) if so, the purpose for which Pakistan wants to have the building; and
- (e) the objections/reservations of the Union Government regarding the said matter ?

Answer

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

- (a) to (b) Yes, Sir. The Government has decided to use the Jinnah House as SAARC Sub-Regional Cultural Centre under the administrative control and direction of the Indian Council of Cultural Relations (ICCR).
- (c) to (d) Pakistan had requested for the lease of the Jinnah House as the residence of their Consul General in 1979.
- (e) After carefully considering the request, the Government of India had conveyed its inability to accede to Pakistani request.