

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3126

ANSWERED ON:23.03.2005

PROPOSAL TO REUNITE DIVIDED FAMILIES OF INDIA AND PAKISTAN

Badiga Shri Ramakrishna;Patel Shri Kishanbhai Vestabhai;Sarvey Shri Sathyanarayana;Tripathy Shri Braja Kishore

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a proposal by India for demarcation of five points along LoC to facilitate the reunion of divided families has been rejected by Pakistan as reported in the Hindu dated January 25, 2005.

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) whether talks have been held with Pakistan in this regard; and

(d) if so, the outcome thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (RAO INDERJIT SINGH)

(a) to (d): During the Foreign Secretary level talks held in Islamabad in December 27-28 2004, India had proposed to designate a few places along the International Border and the LOC where the relatives on both sides could come and meet. The places suggested were Poonch, Mendhar, Suchetgarh, Uri and Tangdhar in Neelam Valley.

Response of Pakistan is awaited.