

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1686

ANSWERED ON:04.08.2010

FOREIGN SECRETARY'S VISIT TO PAKISTAN

Ahir Shri Hansraj Gangaram; Hussain Shri Syed Shahnawaz; Naik Dr. Sanjeev Ganesh; Rao Shri Sambasiva Rayapati; Sardinha Shri Francisco; Sule Supriya

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Foreign Secretary of India visited Pakistan in the recent past;
- (b) if so, the details of the issues discussed and the agreements signed on the occasion;
- (c) whether it is a fact that Pakistan's main agenda was about settlement of Kashmir issue;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the extent to which the Foreign Secretary's visit has succeeded in improving the bilateral relations with Pakistan?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI S.M. KRISHNA)

(a) to (e) Pursuant to the mandate given by Prime Minister and the Prime Minister of Pakistan after their meeting on the sidelines of SAARC Summit in Thimphu on April 29, 2010, Foreign Secretary visited Islamabad to hold discussions with Pakistan Foreign Secretary on June 24, 2010. During the talks, ground was prepared for the visit of External Affairs Minister to Pakistan from 14-16 July, 2010. The two Foreign Secretaries also discussed the modalities for restoring trust and confidence in the relationship and thus paving the way for a comprehensive, sustained and meaningful dialogue on all issues of mutual interest and concern.