

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2839

ANSWERED ON:11.08.2010

FAILURE OF TALKS

Choudhary Shri Nikhil Kumar;Hazari Shri Maheshwar ;Mandal Shri Mangani Lal;Singh Shri Rakesh

**Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:**

(a) whether the recent Indo-Pak talks proved to be a failure;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the lack of coordination between his Ministry, Ministry of Home Affairs and Ministry of Defence was one of the reasons for the failures;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the other reasons for failure of talks;

(e) the facts in regard to the contradictory statements made by the Foreign Ministers of India and Pakistan after the meeting was held recently in Islamabad;

(f) whether any breach of diplomatic etiquette was observed during the said talks; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

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

(a) to (g): External Affairs Minister (EAM) met the Foreign Minister of Pakistan (PFM) on July 15, 2010 in Islamabad. The Ministers reviewed the current state of bilateral relations and discussed steps to promote trust and confidence. EAM conveyed that the fulfilment, in letter and spirit, of the solemn commitment given by the leaders of Pakistan, at the highest level, of not allowing territory under Pakistan's control to be used for any terrorist activity directed against India, would be the biggest confidence building measure. EAM called for credible and firm action against terrorists groups and their leaders, like the Jamaat-ud-Daawa and Hafiz Saeed, who continue to incite violence against India.

PFM assured EAM that the Government of Pakistan will do everything in its power to fulfill the commitment given by Pakistan of not allowing its territory to be used for terrorism against India. PFM assured that the investigation in the Mumbai terrorist attack case, taking into account the additional information obtained from the recent interrogation of David Coleman Headley and provided by Home Minister during his visit to Pakistan in June 2010, would be pursued vigorously to unravel the full conspiracy and bring all the perpetrators of that heinous crime to justice.

The detailed and frank discussions held during the visit enabled both the countries to develop a better understanding of each others' position and point of view on various issues. Despite differences of opinion on the way forward on a few issues, there was a broad understanding on a number of other issues. PFM accepted EAM's invitation to visit Delhi at a suitable date to be decided through diplomatic channels.

All the concerned Ministries of the Government of India work closely in a coordinated manner on such critical matters. The mandate for Foreign Minister level talks with Pakistan on 15-07-2010 was approved in the meeting of the Cabinet Committee on Security held before the visit of the External Affairs Minister to Pakistan.