

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4033
ANSWERED ON:18.08.2010
MFN STATUS
Lagadapati Shri Rajagopal

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India gave Pakistan the status of `Most Favoured Nation` (MFN);
- (b) if so, the reasons behind Pakistan not reciprocating the same;
- (c) whether this issue has come up in the recently held Foreign Secretary level meeting; and
- (d) if so, the reaction from Pakistan on giving the MFN status to India?

Answer

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

(a) to (d): India has granted Most Favoured Nation (MFN) status to Pakistan, but Pakistan has so far not granted MFN status to India despite its obligations, including under WTO, and has cited extraneous political and other reasons for this.

The issue of promotion of trade and commerce between the two countries was discussed during the Foreign Secretary level talks held in Islamabad on June 24, 2010. Government has consistently raised the issue of granting MFN status to India with Pakistan and drawn attention to its obligations in this regard.