

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:467
ANSWERED ON:03.08.2011
DESECRATION OF GURUDWARA SAHIB IN PAKISTAN
Meghwal Shri Arjun Ram

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware of desecration and vandalism at Gurudwara Sahib located in Rawal Pindi, Pakistan as well as temples in Pakistan;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the details of the diplomatic measures taken by the Government to protect the religious places located in Pakistan?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS(SMT. PRENEET KAUR)

(a) & (b) Government has seen reports in the Pakistan media about a dispute over a Gurudwara in Rawalpindi. Government has also seen media reports from time to time regarding land disputes involving Hindu places of worship and demolition in certain cases, in Pakistan.

(c) It is the responsibility of the Government of Pakistan to discharge its obligations towards its citizens including the protection of their places of worship. However, based on reports of persecution of minority groups in Pakistan, Government has taken up this matter with the Government of Pakistan. The Government of Pakistan stated that it was fully cognizant of the situation and looked after the welfare of all its citizens, particularly the minority community.