

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3506

ANSWERED ON:24.08.2011

INDO PAK TALKS

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Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of bilateral talks held with Pakistan during the last three years, year-wise;
- (b) the details of agreements signed during the above period and the status of their implementation;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to take very strong position against terrorist activities from Pakistan; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a) & (b)
2008

(i) & (ii) Prime Minister met Prime Minister of Pakistan Mr. Yousuf Raza Gilani in Colombo on August 2, 2008 on the sidelines of SAARC Summit and also in Beijing on October 24, 2008 on the sidelines of the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) summit.

(iii) Prime Minister met President of Pakistan Mr. Asif Ali Zardari on the sidelines of United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) meeting in New York on September 24, 2008.

(iv) External Affairs Minister (EAM) visited Pakistan on May 20-21, 2008. Mr. Shah Mahmood Qureshi, Foreign Minister of Pakistan visited New Delhi on June 27, 2008 and again on November 26-29, 2008.

2009

(v) PM met President Zardari on the sidelines of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization-Brazil, Russia, India, China (SCO-BRIC) summit in Yekaterinburg on June 16, 2009.

(vi) Prime Minister met PM Gilani in Sharm-el-Sheikh on July 16, 2009 on the sidelines of Non Aligned Movement (NAM) Summit.

(vii) EAM met Pakistan Foreign Minister on the sidelines of G-8 Outreach meeting on June 26, 2009 in Trieste (Italy).

(viii) EAM and Foreign Secretary met their Pakistani counterparts in the last week of September, 2009 at the margins of UNGA meeting in New York.

2010

(ix) Foreign Secretary level talks between India and Pakistan were held on February 25, 2010 in New Delhi.

(x) Prime Minister met the Prime Minister of Pakistan on the sidelines of SAARC Summit in Bhutan in April 2010.

(xi) Foreign Secretary held discussions with Pakistan Foreign Secretary on June 24, 2010 in Islamabad to prepare for the visit of EAM on July 15, 2010 to Islamabad.

(xii) EAM visited Islamabad on July 15, 2010.

2011

(xiii) Foreign Secretary level talks between India and Pakistan were held in Thimphu on February 6, 2011.

(xiv) Home Secretary/Interior Secretary level talks between India and Pakistan were held on March 28-29, 2011 in New Delhi.

(xv) Fifth round of India-Pakistan talks at the Commerce Secretary level were held on April 27-28, 2011 in Islamabad.

(xvi) Water Secretary level talks were held in Islamabad on May 12-13, 2011 to discuss the Tulbul Navigation project/Wullar Barrage.

(xvii) Additional Secretary/Surveyor General level talks were held on Sir Creek on May 20-21, 2011 in Islamabad.

(xviii) Defence Secretary level talks on Siachen were held on May 30-31, 2011, New Delhi.

(xix) Foreign Secretary level talks were held in Islamabad on June 23-24, 2011.

(xx) & (xxi) EAM met Pakistan's Foreign Minister for talks on July 27, 2011 in New Delhi. This was preceded by Foreign Secretary level talks on July 26, 2011.

(c) & (d) India has consistently emphasized, including at the highest level, the need for Pakistan to fulfil the commitment given by its leadership of not allowing territory under its control to be used to support terrorism against India in any manner. During the meeting of EAM with the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Pakistan on July 27, 2011, the Ministers agreed that terrorism poses a continuing threat to peace and security and reiterated the firm and undiluted commitment of the two countries to fight and eliminate this scourge in all its forms and manifestations and in this regard agreed on the need to strengthen cooperation on counter-terrorism to bring those responsible for terror crimes to justice.