GOVERNMENT OF INDIA EXTERNAL AFFAIRS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3303 ANSWERED ON:14.12.2011 INDO PAK TALKS ON KASHMIR Choudhary Shri Harish;Sinh Dr. Sanjay

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any talks have been held with Pakistan on Kashmir during the last two years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the outcome of the said talks; and
- (d) the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

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

(a) to (d) During the Foreign Secretary level talks between India and Pakistan held in Islamabad on June 23-24, 2011, the two sides exchanged views on the issue of Jammu & Kashmir and agreed to continue discussions in a purposeful and forward looking manner with the view to finding a peaceful solution by narrowing divergences and building convergences.

During the Foreign Minister level talks between India and Pakistan on July 27, 2011 in New Delhi, on the issue of Jammu & Kashmir, both sides reiterated their respective positions which are well known, and agreed to continue discussions. The two Foreign Ministers also endorsed the measures recommended by the Joint Working Group on Cross-Line of Control [LoC] Confidence Building Measures [CBMs] after its meeting on July 18, 2011, to ensure effective implementation of existing Cross-LoC travel and trade arrangements and take additional measures for their further strengthening and streamlining.

 $India\ is\ committed\ to\ resolving\ all\ outstanding\ issues\ with\ Pakistan\ through\ a\ bilateral\ dialogue.$