

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1483
ANSWERED ON:06.03.2013
UN MILITARY OBSERVER GROUP IN KASHMIR
Bundela Shri Jeetendra Singh;Pandurang Shri Munde Gopinathrao

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether personnel of the UN Military Observer Group are still present in Jammu and Kashmir (J&K);
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for their presence;
- (c) whether the government is not convinced about their relevance on Line of Control (LoC) in J&K and had clashed with Pakistan on this issue recently;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) whether the Government proposes to close down their office in Kashmir and if so, the details thereof ?

Answer

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

(a) to (e) Yes. UNMOGIP was established under a UN Security Council Resolution and was meant to supervise the Cease Fire Line established in Jammu and Kashmir under the Karachi Agreement of July 1949. Following the signing of the Simla Agreement of 1972 between India and Pakistan, both countries have resolved to settle their differences by peaceful means through bilateral negotiations. It was also agreed that the Line of Control resulting from the ceasefire of December 17, 1971 shall be respected by both sides, and that neither side shall seek to alter it unilaterally, irrespective of mutual differences and legal interpretations. Both sides have also agreed to refrain from the threat or the use of force in violation of this Line. Government is, therefore, of the view that UNMOGIP's role has been overtaken by the Simla Agreement and establishment of the Line of Control. Pakistan's suggestion to have the January 8, 2013 incident along the Line of Control investigated by the UNMOGIP, was therefore, also not accepted.