

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1965
ANSWERED ON:23.07.2014
PEACE DIALOGUE
Kumar Shri Shailesh (Bulo Mandal)

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken positive steps to hold peace dialogue with Pakistan and other neighbouring countries;
- (b) if so, the reaction of the neighbouring countries to the peace dialogue proposed by the Government, country-wise;
- (c) whether the incidents of firing on the border have occurred after the initial peace dialogue with Pakistan;
- (d) if so, whether the matter has been raised with Pakistan and the reaction of Pakistan Government thereto; and
- (e) the details of the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (GEN. RETD. V.K. SINGH)

(a) & (b) In keeping with India's long standing policy to build, peaceful, friendly and good neighbourly ties with all its neighbours, Prime Minister Narendra Modi extended an invitation to leaders of India's neighbours in South Asia to attend the swearing-in ceremony of the new Government on May 26, 2014. All visiting leaders expressed great appreciation at this gesture.

(c) to (e) Pakistan's sponsorship of cross-border terrorism in India, and unprovoked firing along the Line of Control and International Boundary in Jammu and Kashmir has continued unabated.

Government will continue to take all necessary steps to protect the security and territorial integrity of the nation.