

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2679
ANSWERED ON:05.08.2015
Pilgrim Corridor to Pakistan
Singh Captain Amarinder

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the State Government of Punjab had requested to the Central Government for constructing a Pilgrim Corridor upto the Gurudwara Sri Kartarpur Sahib in Pakistan;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has taken up this matter with the Pakistan Government; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the time by which it is likely to be constructed?

Answer

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

(a) to (d) Government from time to time has received requests including from the State Government of Punjab for creation of a Pilgrim Corridor upto the Gurudwara Sri Kartarpur Sahib in Pakistan.

Government's view is that a faster and more efficient manner to ensure easy access to the sacred Shrine of Kartarpur Sahib for all Indian pilgrims is by seeking inclusion of Kartarpur Sahib Shrine and also further liberalization in the '1974 Protocol on visits to Religious Shrines'. Government has raised the matter of expanding the list of shrines included in the 1974 Protocol on visits to Religious Shrines. There has been no response from Pakistan so far.

Government will continue to take up the issue of facilitation of visits of pilgrims from India to shrines in Pakistan, including the inclusion of Kartarpur Sahib in an expanded list of shrines under the bilateral '1974 Protocol on Visits to Religious Shrines'.
