GOVERNMENT OF INDIA EXTERNAL AFFAIRS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5036 ANSWERED ON:13.08.2014 FOREIGN SECRETARY TALKS Dhotre Shri Sanjay Shamrao

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Foreign Secretary level talks have been held between India and Pakistan recently;
- (b) if so, the details of discussions held and areas identified for further co-operation between the two countries;
- (c) whether the continuous violation of ceasefire by Pakistan also came up during the discussions and if so, the response of Pakistan thereto; and
- (d) the road map chalked out for boosting bilateral ties between the two countries?

Answer

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

(a) to (d) In the meeting between the Prime Ministers of India and Pakistan on 27 May 2014 in New Delhi it was agreed that the Foreign Secretaries of both the countries will remain in touch and explore how to move the bilateral relations forward. In this context, the two Foreign Secretaries had a telephonic discussion on 23 July 2014 and have agreed to meet on 25 August 2014 in Islamabad.

During the telephonic discussion our security and terrorism related concerns were also taken up including the frequent ceasefire violations by Pakistan along the IB and LoC in Jammu and Kashmir. It was conveyed that incidents of this nature would impede the positive work that the political leaders of both countries have decided to undertake.