

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3214
TO BE ANSWERED ON 14.03.2018

PILGRIM CORRIDOR

3214. SHRI GURJEET SINGH AUJLA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state

- (a) whether the State Government of Punjab has 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's Government; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the time by which it is likely to be constructed?

ANSWER

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 representations and requests including from the State Government of Punjab for creation of a Pilgrim Corridor upto 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 continues 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'.
