

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:47
ANSWERED ON:23.07.2003
INDO PAK DIALOGUE TOWARDS PEACE
A. VENKATESH NAIK;PRABHA RAU

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India's roadmap for talks with Pakistan was discussed with the Deputy Secretary of State of USA during his visit to India in the month of May, 2003;
- (b) whether the US Deputy Secretary had indicated that India had a clear and detailed roadmap to reach an understanding with Pakistan on all issues in the run up to a summit;
- (c) whether the details of this roadmap have been given to Pakistan;
- (d) if so, the details of the roadmap and the reaction of Pakistan thereto;
- (e) whether the Union Government have made some efforts to restore normalcy with Pakistan in the last few months ; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI VINOD KHANNA)

(a) to (f) A statement is placed on the Table of the House

Statement referred to in parts (a) to (f) of the answer to Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 47 to be answered on 23.07.2003 regarding Indo-Pak Dialogue towards peace

Prime Minister had, on April 18, 2003, once again extended the hand of friendship to Pakistan. In his statement in Parliament on May 2, he had announced the decision to appoint a High Commissioner to Pakistan and to restore civil aviation links on a reciprocal basis. It had also been made clear that India would pursue a step-by-step approach to normalisation of links and that creating conditions conducive to sustained dialogue necessarily required an end to cross-border infiltration and dismantling of the infrastructure of support to terrorism in Pakistan.

India's approach has been publicly articulated on several occasions and also in conversations with international interlocutors.

Following Prime Minister's initiative both countries have appointed High Commissioners. The Delhi-Lahore bus service has been resumed with effect from July 11. Pakistan has indicated willingness to host technical level discussions for resumption of civil aviation, although proposals for specific dates are still awaited. Both sides have released prisoners. There have also been important exchanges in the context of business, cultural and people-to-people contacts.