

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2770
ANSWERED ON:10.05.2006
REVIEW PETITION OF INDIAN PRISONER IN PAK
Dhindsa Shri Sukhdev Singh

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has taken up the matter of an alleged Indian spy imprisoned in Pakistan whose review petition against death sentence has been rejected by the Supreme Court there recently; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED)

(a) - (b) Mr. Sarabjeet Singh, alias Manjit Singh, was tried and convicted on 15 August 1991 by the Anti Terrorist Court (ATC), Pakistan, for his alleged involvement in bomb explosions at four different places in Lahore in 1990. The decision of the ATC was ratified by the Supreme Court of Pakistan on 18 August 2005 and 27 September 2005.

Mr. Singh filed review petitions to the Supreme Court on 27 September 2005 and 8 November 2005 in all the four cases. The review petition in one of the cases has been dismissed and the death penalty awarded to him has been confirmed on 9 March 2006. He submitted a mercy petition to the President of Pakistan in this case on 24 March 2006. The combined review petition in respect of the remaining three cases filed on 27 September 2005 is still pending with the Supreme Court of Pakistan for final disposal.

Government have requested the Government of Pakistan to treat the matter sympathetically and to examine his mercy petition with compassion.