

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2801  
ANSWERED ON:10.05.2006  
WITHDRAWAL OF TROOPS FROM SIACHIN  
Chinta Mohan Dr. ;Munshiram Shri

**Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Union Government has decided for the withdrawal of Indian troops from Siachin area;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government had a dialogue with other countries including Pakistan in this regard during the last one year;
- (d) if so, when and where these dialogues were held; and
- (e) the details in this regard?

**Answer**

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

(a) - (b) There is no proposal to pull out troops from Siachen area. India's position on this issue is that authentication of the presently held positions has to be the first step before any redeployment of troops is considered.

(c) - (e) Under the Simla Agreement, both India and Pakistan are committed to address bilateral issues peacefully through bilateral dialogue. Siachen is one of the subjects being discussed in the framework of the Composite Dialogue. There is no scope for any third party role.

The Defence Secretary level talks between India and Pakistan on Siachen under the Composite Dialogue were held in Islamabad on 26-27 May 2005. Both sides expressed satisfaction at the ceasefire currently in place since November 2003 and agreed to its continuation. The two Defence Secretaries agreed to continue with their discussions to resolve the Siachen issue in a peaceful manner. The next round of Defence Secretary level talks on Siachen issue is scheduled to be held in New Delhi on 23-24 May 2006.