

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1192

ANSWERED ON:07.03.2007

INDO-PAK RELATIONS

Rana Shri Kashi Ram;Scindia Shri Jyotiraditya Madhavrao

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the President of Pakistan has put forth any fresh proposals for improvement of Indo-Pak relations including resolution of Kashmir issue;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE)

(a) & (b) In an interview to an Indian news channel in December 2006, President Musharraf made certain proposals on Jammu and Kashmir, which were similar to proposals made by him earlier. These included identification of the area to which these proposals would apply, making the Line of Control irrelevant, demilitarisation, self-governance and joint management.

(c) The issue of J&K is being discussed between India and Pakistan within the framework of the Composite Dialogue. Our consistent position during the above talks has been that Jammu and Kashmir is an integral part of India and the settlement of the issue of Jammu and Kashmir can be achieved through dialogue. Any demilitarisation or re-deployment of security forces within the territory is a sovereign decision of Government of India based on our own assessment of prevailing security situation. Jammu and Kashmir already enjoys autonomy under the Indian Constitution and has in place a democratically elected government.