

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-1293
ANSWERED ON-10.12.2015
Resolving of issues by India and Pakistan

1293 Shri A. W. Rabi Bernard

- (a) whether India and Pakistan decided to jointly resolve sensitive issues like ceasefire violations and infiltration along the border by initiating timely exchange of information and inked some new confidence-building measures, If so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the issues of incidents of firing at the borders, smuggling of narcotics and defence construction activities were discussed during the meetings, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether both the sides agreed for constant endeavour to maintain peaceful and tranquil borders and also agreed to stop ceasefire along the line of the International Border (IB) through enhanced communication; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
[GEN. (DR) V. K. SINGH (RETD)]

(a) Prime Minister met the Prime Minister of Pakistan on 10 July 2015, on the sidelines of the SCO Summit in Ufa (Russia). During the meeting, the two sides agreed on a meeting in New Delhi between the two NSAs to discuss all issues connected to terrorism, an early meeting of Directors General of Border Security Force (BSF) and Pakistan Rangers followed by that of the Directors General of Military Operations (DGMOs), and discussions on ways and means to expedite the Mumbai case trial including additional information like providing voice samples. In addition, decision was also taken for release of fishermen in each other's custody along with their boats within a period of 15 days and establishing a mechanism for facilitating religious tourism.

(b) to (d) Directors General of BSF and Pakistan Rangers met from 9-12 September 2015 in New Delhi. The meeting covered the entire gamut of border management issues that traditionally figure in the regular bi-annual Directors General of BSF and Pakistan Rangers meetings. In particular, detailed discussions were held on mechanisms enhancing safety and security of border force personnel and civilian populations along the border, improved coordination between the BSF and Pakistan Rangers and expeditious release of civilians inadvertently straying across the International

Border (IB). The two sides agreed to the need for enhanced communication between commanders of the two forces at all levels and establishing mechanisms to enhance exchange of information between the two forces to combat smuggling and trafficking of narcotics, Fake Indian Currency Notes (FICN), arms and ammunition.