

between India and Iran on the 5th May 2015. The MoU envisages construction of a multipurpose cargo terminal (600 mtrs length) and a container terminal (640 mtrs length).

Participation in the Chabahar Port development will provide India an alternative and reliable access route into Afghanistan utilizing India's earlier investment in Zaranj-Delaram road built in Afghanistan, and also a reliable and more direct sea-road access route into Central Asian Region. Chabahar Port's location at the Arabian Sea means that it would be able to skirt any challenges posed by developments in the Persian Gulf and Strait of Hormuz.

**Judgement on Hyderabad monies lying in UK bank**

433. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T.: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that UK High Court has recently given judgment on Hyderabad monies lying in UK bank;
- (b) if so, the details of the judgement in UK High Court;
- (c) whose position is vindicated in the judgement;
- (d) the ground on which Pakistan is claiming that UK Judge has accepted that there is good evidence to support Pakistan's claim to monies; and
- (e) what exactly is the picture of the case now?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS [GENERAL (RETD.) V. K. SINGH]: (a) to (e) The High Court of Justice in London is currently seized of the case 'High Commissioner for Pakistan in the UK v Prince Mukkaram Jah and others' pertaining to the monies of erstwhile State of Hyderabad which is held frozen in the National Westminster Bank (London) since 1948.

On 21 June 2016, in the pre-trial judgement, the High Court dismissed Pakistan's application invoking limitation against India's claim to the monies.

In so far as Pakistan's claims to the monies is concerned, the Judge observed that Pakistan's claim to beneficial ownership of the Fund cannot be dismissed as having no real prospect of success, but must go to trial. The Judge also observed that there is much force in many of the arguments advanced by India and the Princes challenging Pakistan's claims to the ownership of the monies.

The matter is to be settled through trial in England, or by other means agreed between the parties to the case.