

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No.2652
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18.03.2020

DIALOGUE AND CEASEFIRE AGREEMENT BETWEEN INDIA AND PAKISTAN

2652. SHRI ABDUL WAHAB:

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

- (a) whether Government has conducted any track one or track two dialogues to resolve border issues with Pakistan during the last six years;
- (b) if so, the details of the dialogues that happened with Pakistan during the last six years;
- (c) whether India and Pakistan have recently agreed for a ceasefire pact along the Line of Control; and
- (d) if so, the details of the dialogues conducted and agreements?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
[SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN]

(a) to (d) During the visit of the External Affairs Minister to Pakistan in December 2015, it was decided to have a meeting at the level of the Foreign Secretaries to work out the modalities of the Comprehensive Bilateral Dialogue. However, the meeting of the Foreign Secretaries could not take place due to the terrorist attack on the Pathankot Air Base in January 2016 and the continued support to cross border terrorism and ceasefire violations by Pakistan.

The Government's consistent position has been that India desires normal neighbourly relations with Pakistan and is committed to addressing issues, if any, bilaterally and peacefully in an atmosphere free of terror, hostility and violence. The onus is on Pakistan to create such a conducive atmosphere including by taking credible, verifiable and irreversible action to not allow any territory under its control to be used for cross border terrorism against India in any manner.

India and Pakistan maintain regular channels of communication through the respective High Commissions and other established mechanisms such as hotlines, flag meetings, scheduled talks between the Directorate Generals of Military Operations (DGMO). Through these well established mechanisms, the Government regularly takes up all cases of unprovoked ceasefire violations and support for cross-border terrorist infiltration by Pakistan forces. Pakistan has been consistently called upon to abide by its 2003 Ceasefire commitment for maintaining peace and tranquility along the International Boundary and the Line of Control

Following the scheduled talk between the Directors General of Military Operations over hotline, a Joint Statement was issued on 25th February 2021, in which both sides agreed to the strict observance of all agreements, understandings and cease firing along the Line of Control and all other sectors with effect from the midnight of 24/25 February 2021.
