

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.40
TO BE ANSWERED ON 16.11.2016**

ATROCITIES IN POK

40. SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to raise the issue of atrocities committed by Pakistan in Pakistan occupied Kashmir (PoK) and other parts of Pakistan at the International fora; and**
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the response of foreign countries thereto?**

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
(SHRI M. J. AKBAR)**

(a) & (b) Government monitors all developments taking place in the territories of India including in territories that are under the forcible and illegal occupation of Pakistan.

The Prime Minister in his Independence Day address to the nation, on 15 August 2016, greeted and thanked the people of Balochistan, Gilgit and Pakistan Occupied Kashmir (POK) for their good wishes and gratitude. The External Affairs Minister during her address to the 71st United Nations General Assembly in New York, on 26 September 2016 highlighted the egregious abuses that Pakistan is perpetrating in its own country, including in Balochistan. Further, the issue was highlighted in India's statements and Rights of Reply (RoRs') at the 33rd meeting of the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC) in September 2016 in Geneva and during the General Debate at the 135th Assembly Session of Inter Parliamentary Union (IPU) on 24th October 2016 in Geneva.
