GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 339

TO BE ANSWERED ON 12.12.2018

CONSTRUCTION OF KARTARPUR CORRIDOR

339. SHRI GURJEET SINGH AUJLA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has any proposal to build Kartarpur Corridor from Dera Baba Nanak in Punjab's Gurdaspur to the international border;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard and the time by which it is likely to be completed?

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

(a) to (c) The Union Cabinet, on 22 November 2018, passed a Resolution to celebrate the 550th Birth Anniversary of Shri Guru Nanak Devji in 2019 and *interalia* approved building and development of Kartarpur Corridor from Dera Baba Nanak in Gurdaspur District to the International Border on the Indian side to facilitate pilgrims from India to visit Gurudwara Kartarpur Sahib in Pakistan. On the same day, the Government of India informed the Government of Pakistan of its decision to build Kartarpur Corridor from Dera Baba Nanak in Gurdaspur District of India to the International Border and urged Pakistan to recognise the sentiments of the Sikh community and to develop a corridor with suitable facilities in their territory from the International Border to Gurudwara Kartarpur Sahib.

Hon'ble Vice President of India laid the foundation stone for the construction of the corridor on the Indian side on 26 November 2018. The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways is the nodal Ministry to build and develop the facilities on the Indian side.

Union Minister of Food Processing Industries and Minister of State (IC) for Housing and Urban Affairs attended the ground breaking ceremony for development of Kartarpur Corridor on the Pakistan side on 28 November 2018 as representatives of the Government of India.

Pakistan has been urged to expedite the construction of the corridor in order to ensure that Indian citizens can pay their respects at the Gurudwara Kartarpur Sahib using the corridor as soon as possible.
