

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1912
TO BE ANSWERED ON 03.07.2019

ATROCITIES AGAINST MINORITIES IN PAKISTAN

†1912. SHRI SUBHASH CHANDRA BAHERIA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken any steps against the apathetic attitude of the Government of Pakistan towards the recent increase in the incidents of atrocities against minorities in Pakistan;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has presented the issue of violation of human rights in Pakistan before the International Human Rights Commission; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b) The Government, from time to time, has come across reports of problems faced by members of the minority communities in Pakistan, including those of intimidation, abduction, persecution, forced conversions and forced marriages. It is the responsibility of the Government of Pakistan to discharge its constitutional obligations towards its citizens, including those from the minority communities. Based on reports of atrocities on minorities in Pakistan, the Government has, from time to time, taken up the matter with the Government of Pakistan and asked it to take steps to protect and to promote the safety, security and well-being of its minority communities.

(c) & (d) India has on several occasions highlighted the human rights violations in Pakistan, including at the UN Human Rights Council in Geneva. It has recommended to Pakistan, *inter alia*, to end forced conversions and marriages of minorities, including Hindu, Sikh and Christian women, and prosecute all cases; to stop targeting political dissidents and legitimate criticism in Sindh, Balochistan and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa; to stop torture, enforced disappearances and unlawful killings, including those of journalists and activists, by its security agencies and prosecute perpetrators; to review the education curriculum, including in Madrassahs, to remove extreme prejudices, religious intolerance and historical distortions; to stop sectarian violence, systemic persecution and attacks on Muslim minorities, such as Shias, Ahmadiyahs, Ismailias and Hazaras.
