Ministry of External Affairs
Government of India

Q NO.2071 DISCUSSION OVER KASHMIR ISSUE IN UK

December 11, 2014

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2071
TO BE ANSWERED ON 11.12.2014

DISCUSSION OVER KASHMIR ISSUE IN UK

2071. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the UK House of Commons has debated political and humanitarian situation in Kashmir in the recent past, if so, the details thereof;
(b) whether Government has registered its protest with Government of the UK in this regard;
(c) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the UK Government thereto; and
(d) the steps Government is taking so that internal issues of the country are not debated in the foreign parliaments/any other international fora?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (d) A debate on the "Political and humanitarian situation in Kashmir" was held in the UK House of Commons on Sep 11, 2014. Around 20 MPs attended/participated in the debate.

The Government of India has expressed its concern on the issue at different levels with the UK Government, which has stated that this is part of the Parliamentary process where Parliamentarians express their views on any matter.

Government's consistent and principled position is that the entire State of Jammu and Kashmir is an integral part of the Union of India. A part of the territory of the State is under the forcible and illegal occupation of Pakistan. Under the Simla Agreement, India and Pakistan are committed to resolving all outstanding issues, including the issue of Jammu and Kashmir, through a peaceful bilateral dialogue. There is no role whatsoever for a third party.

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Working hours at Headquarters 9:00 A.M. To 5:30 P.M.