

Indo-Pak tension should cease before talks: UK

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London: Sharing India's concern over cross-border terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir, Britain wants Pakistan to "do more" in putting an end to it before expecting resumption of India-Pakistan dialogue.

"There has to be evidence of real change before the dialogue starts," a senior British official told a group of visiting Indian journalists here.

Termining as "very positive" the recent proposals by India to improve relations with Pakistan, he said this was an "encouraging step" and would help maintain the momentum of peace initiative by Prime Minister Atal Bi-

hari Vajpayee which was started on April 18 this year.

Asked about promises made by Pakistan President Pervez Musharraf on the issue of taking the country on the path of democracy, the official said, "The movement towards democratisation in that country is disappointing." On whether India should at any future date be talking to Mr Musharraf or Prime Minister Jamali, the official said "The question of who talks to whom is an issue on which we don't want to express a view."

But he felt that Mr Musharraf has to be "involved" in any engagement. PTI