## GOVERNMENT OF INDIA EXTERNAL AFFAIRS LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:145 ANSWERED ON:29.11.2000 KASHMIR ISSUE A.P. JITHENDER REDDY

## Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the specific efforts initiated to secure global support for curbing terrorist activities encouraged by Pakistan along Indo-Pak border;
- (b) the extent to which the Government have succeeded in creating a favourable position in this regard at the global level so far; and
- (c) the extent to which it will be helpful in finding a solution to the Kashmir problem?

## **Answer**

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH)

(a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN PARTS (A) TO (C) OF THE ANSWER TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 145  $^{\circ}$  ANSWERED ON 29.11.2000

Government have effectively brought to the attention of the international community, Pakistan's support to cross-border terrorism and continued attempts to interfere in the internal affairs of India. Facts regarding Pakistan's state sponsorship of terrorism have been highlighted in several international fora. This issue has also been raised at high level bilateral discussions with world leaders.

The international community in large measure now recognizes Pakistan's state sponsorship of terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir, and elsewhere in India, and the impact this has on the security of our country and the region. This greater awareness is being reflected in the international media coverage on Pakistan, as also in statements by official spokesmen of several governments.

Simultaneously, Government have been continuing with its efforts to normalize the situation in Jammu and Kashmir, and to hold talks with all those who are prepared to dialogue, in keeping with the strong desire of the people of Jammu and Kashmir for peace. Towards this end, on 19th November 2000, Government announced that Indian security forces have been instructed to not initiate combat operations against militants in Jammu and Kashmir during the forthcoming holy month of Ramzaan. Government are, however, aware that Pakistan is continuing with its efforts to damage prospects of peace in Jammu and Kashmir. Government is resolved to defeat such attempts.