

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3979
ANSWERED ON:19.04.2000
KASHMIR ISSUE
SUDARSANA E.M. NATCHIAPPAN

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned `France too says situation in Kashmir dangerous` appearing in the Hindustan Times dated February 19, 2000;
- (b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein; and
- (c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

(SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA)

a) Yes, Sir.

b)& c) During the visit of the French Foreign Minister to India in February 2000, the two sides reviewed bilateral, regional and international issues and developments in the neighbourhood, including their common concerns on terrorism, narcotics and arms trafficking. It has been clarified that Jammu & Kashmir was not discussed.