

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1690

ANSWERED ON:28.11.2001

MILITANCY IN KASHMIR

A. VENKATESH NAIK;ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL;RAMSHETH THAKUR

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the U.S. has agreed to link Kashmir terror to Pakistan;
- (b) if so, whether the U.S. has also agreed to take action against the terrorists active in Kashmir; and (
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH)

(a) The U.S. Government has on a number of occasions acknowledged links between Pakistan and terrorism in India. The U.S. State Department has observed in its annual report for the year 2000 on Patterns of Global Terrorism that, 'Pakistan's military government, headed by Gen. Pervez Musharraf, continued previous Pakistani Government support of the Kashmir insurgency, and Kashmiri militant groups continued to operate in Pakistan, raising funds and recruiting new cadre'.

(b) & (c) During Prime Minister's meeting with U.S. President George Bush on 09 November 2001 in Washington D.C., the two leaders noted that both countries are targets of terrorism and affirmed the need for a global war against terrorism and its sponsors everywhere in the world. Earlier, on 05 October 2001, the White House Spokesman had stated at a press briefing that President Bush had condemned the terrorist attack in Srinagar on 01 October 2001 and that the President had also said that 'terrorism must end everywhere, and that includes in Kashmir'. Besides Harkat-ul-Mujahideen, which had been notified by the U.S. State Department as a Foreign Terrorist Organisation, the U.S. Department of Treasury has notified Jaish-e-Mohammad as a Specially Designated Global Terrorist, along with Harkat-ul-Mujahideen and some other Pakistan-based organisations and individuals.