

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:848

ANSWERED ON:29.02.2000

INFILTRATION

BHIM PRASAD DAHAL;RAVI PRAKASH VERMA;REENA CHOUDHARY

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned `six lakh militants ready for war: azhar` appearing in the Times of India dated January 28, 2000.

(b) if so, the facts thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(c) the concrete steps taken to check the activities of militants on the border?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

(SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO)

(a)&(b): Yes Sir. As per available information, Maulana Masood Azhar while addressing a series of meetings and press conferences in Pakistan vowed to recruit 6,00,000 `Mujahideens` for launching `Jehad`. He also announced formation of a new terrorist tanzeem, `Lashkar-e-Muhammadi`.

(c): The Government has adopted a multi pronged approach to tackle militants in J&K which includes, inter-alia strengthening border management, neutralising plans of the militants by pro active action against them in the hinterland, gearing up intelligence machinery, greater functional framework of Operation Groups and Intelligence Groups of the UHQ at all levels, improved technology, weapons and equipments for security forces etc.

Steps have also been taken afresh to flush out militants, check infiltration and curb militant activities including closer vigil on the border, by intensive patrolling and extensive search operations.