

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6739

ANSWERED ON:09.05.2000

MILITANT OUTFITS

GANGASANDRA SIDDAPPA BASAVARAJ;VILAS BABURAO MUTTEMWAR

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Pakistan is trying the militancy movement in Jammu & Kashmir as indigenous by replacing the Afghan or Pakistan bosses of the militant outfits with Kashmiris;
- (b) if so, whether Pakistan is also making efforts to bring different groups under a unified command;
- (c) if so, whether ISI has also shifted its core support from Lashkar-e-Toiba to HUM after the military coup; and
- (d) if so, the steps the Government propose to take to check the situation and discourage Kashmiris to join hands with Pakistan ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

(SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO)

(a)to(c): Pakistan sponsored terrorist organizations have been trying to escalate violence in the State of J&K by inducting more and more battle hardened foreign mercenaries. Reports suggest large concentration of trained mercenaries on LoC waiting for an opportunity to sneak into own side. There are reports that Pakistan wants to give an indigenous colour to terrorism in J&K to counter growing international perceptions. Pakistan has not, however, achieved this.

(d): With a view to tackle the problem of terrorism in Jammu & Kashmir, the Government has adopted a multi-pronged approach which includes, inter alia, strengthening the border management, neutralizing plans of the militants by pro-active action against them in the hinterland, gearing up intelligence machinery, greater functional integration through an institutional frame work of Operations Groups Intelligence, Groups of the UHQ at all levels, improved technology, weapons and equipment for Security Forces. Steps are being taken to flush out terrorists and curb terrorist activities including closer vigil on the border, establishment of more naka parties in depth areas to check infiltration/exfiltration, more pickets, intensive patrolling and extensive cordon and search operation.