

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1100
ANSWERED ON:01.03.2000
ATTACK ON LINE OF CONTROL BY PAKISTAN
SANJAY PASWAN

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item appeared in `Hindustan Times` dated January 24, 2000 under caption `Army attack on LoC linked to Clinton`s proposed visit`;
- (b) the reaction of Government thereto;
- (c) whether it is a fact that Pakistan intention to project entire Jammu and Kashmir area as a highly disturbed spot on the map of South Asia; and
- (d) if so, the action taken by Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

(SHRI JASWANT SINGH)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b)- (d) Government are aware that Pakistan indulges in unprovoked firing across the Line of Control and the International Border in Jammu and Kashmir, both to provide cover to infiltrating terrorists as well as to attract international attention so as to seek third-party involvement in India-Pakistan relations.

Government have appropriately and effectively brought the reasons for Pakistan`s unprovoked firing to the notice of the international community. Facts regarding Pakistan`s state sponsorship of terrorism in J&K and elsewhere in India have also been brought before the international fora and have also been raised at high level bilateral discussions with world leaders. The international community now openly recognizes Pakistan`s state-sponsorship of terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir and elsewhere in India. This greater awareness is being reflected in the international media coverage on Pakistan, and in statements by official spokesmen of several foreign governments.

Government remain firm in their resolve to take all measures necessary to preserve the security and territorial integrity of the country.