

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:92

ANSWERED ON:01.03.2000

PAK'S INVOLVEMENT IN HIJACKING OF INDIAN PLANE

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Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have clear evidence of Pakistan's involvement in hijacking of Indian Airlines IC 814 plane;
- (b) whether the Pakistan Government has protested against India's evidence;
- (c) whether the main motive of the hijacking of Indian plane was to internationalize the Kashmir issue;
- (d) if so, the reaction of the Government in this regard;
- (e) whether the Indian Government propose to release a white paper on Pakistan's involvement on various subversive activities and grave threat to India;
- (f) if so, the details thereof; (g) whether India had sought extradition of these hijackers from Pakistan; (h) if so, the response received from the Pak's Government, so far; and (i) if not, the action taken by Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH)

(a) - (i) Government are aware of the role of Pakistan and that of Pakistan-based terrorist organizations in the hijacking of IC-814. These terrorist organizations are actively assisted and supported by the Government of Pakistan. Government have taken up the matter with the Government of Pakistan and reminded it of its obligations under various international conventions, to which Pakistan is party and under which it is obliged to extradite the hijackers to India for due judicial process. The Government of Pakistan has undertaken to apprehend and prosecute any person or persons found on the territory of Pakistan or Pakistan occupied Kashmir who may be suspected of having committed such offences. Given Pakistan's involvement in the hijacking, this commitment is of little value.

Pakistan pursues terrorism in Jammu & Kashmir and elsewhere in India as a matter of state policy. Government have appropriately and effectively brought to the notice of the international community, Pakistan's support to cross border terrorism of which the hijacking of IC 814 was one additional example. The international community now openly recognizes Pakistan's state-sponsorship of terrorism and the impact this has on the security of our country and the region. This greater awareness is being reflected in the international media coverage on Pakistan and in the statements by official spokesmen of several governments. A white paper on Pakistan's sponsorship of terrorism against India is under consideration of Government.