

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2566

ANSWERED ON:08.08.2000

CEASEFIRE IN J & K

CHANDRAKANT BHAURAO KHAIRE;GORDHANBHAI JAVIA;RUDRAGOUDA PATIL

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news regarding `Hizbul's ceasefire` appearing in the `Hindustan Times` dated July 26, 2000.
- (b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein;
- (c) whether Hizbul Mujahiddin has made some conditions for their declaration of ceasefire;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO)

(a) to (e): Government are aware of the media reports about the cease-fire announced by Hizbul-Mujahideen, for holding unconditional and meaningful dialogue. Welcoming the move and having taken cognizance of the support extended to the peace initiative by the people of J&K, as also recognizing the need for restoration of peace, Government have urged the Hizbul-Mujahideen leadership to come overground and establish contact with the Union Home Secretary to discuss the modalities necessary for initiating a dialogue and preparing grounds for restoration of peace. Accordingly preliminary contact with the representatives of HM has taken place. Government would also like to invite all militant groups and political leaders to come forward to restore peace and normalcy in the State.