GOVERNMENT OF INDIA EXTERNAL AFFAIRS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2228 ANSWERED ON:07.12.2005 ISSUANCE OF PASSPORT TO ALLEGED TERRORIST Ahir Shri Hansraj Gangaram

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a passport had been issued to Mohd. Ameen Baba, the alleged top commander of the Hizbul Mujahiddin Terrorist Organisation;

(b) if so, whether the Government is also aware that the above alleged terrorist chief has reached Pakistan on Indian Passport;

(c) if so, whether the Government proposes to investigate this case; and

(d) if so, the concrete steps proposed to be taken to plug the loopholes in the passport issuance procedure?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED)

(a) As per information available with the Government, one Mohd. Amin Baba, son of Mr. Mohd. Safdar Baba, date of birth 8.8.1955, place of birth, Badgam, resident of 123, Baba Pora, Magom, Badgam, was issued passport No. P-539166 on 15.12.93 by Regional Passport Office, New Delhi. Another person named Mohd. Amin Baba, son of Ghulam Modi-ud-din Baba, date of birth 10.4.71, place of birth Hoom Tanmarg, Baramulla, r/o Hoom Tanmarg, Hardu Ichloo, Baramulla was also issued passport No. No. R-477682 on 13.10.94 by Passport Office, Jammu.

(b) Mohd. Amin Baba also known as Abid (ex-Divisional Commander, Hizbul Mujahiddin) escaped through Attari to Pakistan on 2nd May, 2005 with the help of his colleagues by using a false identity.

(c) The investigation has already been carried out and those persons who helped him to flee the country have been arrested.

(d) It has been the constant endeavour of the Government to issue passports after usual checks including proper police verification. Wherever any irregularity in issuance of passports is brought to the attention of the Government, a thorough investigation is conducted and corrective steps are immediately taken to avoid such recurrence in the future.