

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:78
ANSWERED ON:02.03.2010
ALLEGED HANDLERS IN MUMBAI ATTACK
Tewari Shri Manish

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the recent information/ evidence suggests/confirms that one of the alleged handlers of the 26/11 perpetrators was an Indian national;
- (b) if so, by when the Government came in possession of the said information/ evidence and rate this information as reliable since it has been put in the public domain;
- (c) whether such assertion is not contrary to the earlier stated position of the Government that the `handlers` of the 26/11 Mumbai terrorist attack perpetrators were Pakistani nationals owing allegiance to the (LeT) Lashker-e-Taiyba;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government has made a formal request to the Government of Pakistan for providing voice sample of `Abu Jendal` as reported in the press;
- (f) if so, the details thereof;
- (g) whether the Government of Pakistan refused the request; and
- (h) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN)

(a) to (h): A Statement is laid on the table of the house.

STATEMENT REFERRED IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 78 FOR 02-03-2010

(a) & (b): As per available inputs, there is no confirmation that one of the alleged handlers of the 26/11 attack was an Indian national. However, in his plea before the Trial Court, Kasab, an accused, has mentioned that he and his deceased associates were taught Hindi by an Indian. Besides, based on certain words used by one of the handlers, there is a suspicion that he is familiar with the Hindi language. However, the Investigating Agencies have not come to any conclusion that one of the handlers was an Indian national.

(c) & (d): There is no contradiction with the stand taken by the government of India that the 26/11 attack was an operation masterminded from Pakistan. There is credible evidence that senior functionaries of the Lasher-e-Taiba (LeT) and others were the controllers/handlers of the ten Pakistani terrorists who were trained, dispatched and guided by the LeT which is the main organization responsible for the terrorist attacks in Mumbai.

(e) to (h): India has provided to Pakistan intercepted communication between terrorists and terrorists' handlers. Pakistan has responded by saying that despite order of Magistrate, the 05 accused refused to provide voice samples for comparison.