

Governors and the Lt. Governors, I raised this issue, and we have been trying to improve the quality, as I said earlier, by bringing the proper contracting agencies. From my Ministry, as and when we get any complaint, we send the inspection team, and I would request all the hon. Members here that if something comes to their notice, they should bring the same to our notice as far as the National Highways are concerned, and we will look into it. Beyond that, I think, we have to leave it to the States.

*43 [The questioner (Shri Yadlapati Venkat Rao) was absent. For answer vide pages 24 and 25 infra.]

जम्मू और कश्मीर में घुसपैठ पर अमरीका का दृष्टिकोण

*44. प्रो० अलका क्षत्रिय:

श्री बालकवि बैरागी:

क्या विदेश मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या भारत स्थित अमरीकी राजदूत ने इस बात को स्वीकार किया है कि जम्मू-कश्मीर में पिछले दो-तीन महीनों में आतंकवादियों की घुसपैठ बढ़ी है तथा पाकिस्तान द्वारा जम्मू-कश्मीर विधानसभा चुनावों को दिखावा बताने के लिए उसे जमकर लताड़ लगाई है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या पाकिस्तान द्वारा जारी घुसपैठ को प्रभावी ढंग से रोकने के लिए सरकार ने अमरीका से तुरन्त हस्तक्षेप करने की मांग की है; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है?

विदेश मंत्री (श्री यशवंत सिन्हा): (क) सरकार ने उन मीडिया रिपोर्टों को देखा है जिसमें भारत में संयुक्त राज्य के राजदूत द्वारा इन टिप्पणियों को देने की बात कही गई है। संयुक्त राज्य अधिकारियों ने पिछले दो-तीन महीनों के दौरान अनेक अवसरों पर पाकिस्तान से सीमा-पार घुसपैठ की हाल की प्रवृत्ति पर चिंता व्यक्त की है। संयुक्त राज्य सहित

[21 November, 2002]

RAJYA SABHA

अंतर्राष्ट्रीय समुदाय ने इस बात को माना है कि जम्मू और कश्मीर में चुनाव स्वतंत्र, निष्पक्ष और विश्वसनीय हुए हैं और उन्होंने इसके विरुद्ध पाकिस्तान के स्व-हित का पोषण करने वाले दावों को अस्वीकार कर दिया है।

(ख) और (ग) सरकार ने संयुक्त राज्य सहित अंतर्राष्ट्रीय समुदाय से स्पष्ट रूप से कहा है कि उसे और अधिक दबाव डालना चाहिए और इस बात की जांच करनी चाहिए कि भारत के विरुद्ध सीमा-पार के आतंकवाद को स्थायी रूप से समाप्त करने पर राष्ट्रपति मुशर्रफ से उन्हें जो वचनबद्धता प्राप्त हुई है उसकी पूर्ति को सुनिश्चित करने के लिए वे कौन से अतिरिक्त कदम उठा सकते हैं। हालांकि सरकार पाकिस्तान द्वारा प्रायोजित सीमापार आतंकवाद का सामना करने के लिए स्वयं सभी उपयुक्त कदम उठाने के लिए प्रतिबद्ध है।

American view over Infiltration in Jammu & Kashmir

†*44. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA:
SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Ambassador of U.S.A. in India has accepted that infiltration of terrorists in Jammu and Kashmir has increased during the last two-three months and has severaly reprimanded Pakistan for calling Jammu and Kashmir assembly elections a sham;

(b) if so, whether Government have asked for America's immediate intervention to stop the continued infiltration by Pakistan effectively; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA): (a) Government has seen media reports attributing these remarks to the United States Ambassador in India. U.S. officials have, on a number of occasions during the past two-three months, expressed

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

concern over the recent trends in cross-border infiltration from Pakistan. The international community, including the United States, has acknowledged that elections in Jammu and Kashmir were free, fair and credible and has rejected Pakistan's self-serving claims to the contrary.

(b) and (c) Government has clearly conveyed to the international community, including the United States, that it must exert greater pressure and examine what additional steps it can take to ensure the fulfilment of the commitment that it has received from President Musharraf on permanently ending cross-border terrorism against India. Government, however, remains determined to take all appropriate steps on its own to combat Pakistan-sponsored cross-border terrorism.

प्रो० अलका क्षत्रिय: सभापति जी, मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय विदेश मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहती हूँ कि हम सब जानते हैं कि पाकिस्तान और भारत के प्रति अमेरिका का दोहरा रवैया है। एक तरफ तो अमेरिका कहता है कि भारत में आतंकवाद के लिए पाकिस्तान जिम्मेदार है और दूसरी तरफ हम जानते हैं कि पाकिस्तान को वह आर्थिक मदद भी देता है, जरूरत पड़ने पर उन्हें शस्त्र भी देता है और उसकी पीठ भी थपथपा देता है। तो क्या पाकिस्तान और भारत के प्रति अमेरिका के इस दोहरे रवैये के लिए खासकर भारत के प्रति अमेरिका के दोहरे रवैये के लिए हमने अमेरिकी सरकार से सीधे-सीधे कोई बात की है? अगर की है तो इसका ब्यौरा क्या है और अगर नहीं तो हमारी सरकार अब तक क्यों चुप्पी साधे बैठी है?

श्री यशवंत सिन्हा: सभापति महोदय, भारत सरकार चुप्पी साधे नहीं बैठी है। सार्वजनिक तौर पर और सरकारी तौर पर जब-जब अमेरिका से हमारी बातचीत हुई है, हम इस विरोधाभास को उनके ध्यान में लाए हैं। प्रधानमंत्री जी ने स्वयं वक्तव्य दिया है, मैंने वक्तव्य दिया है जिसमें इस विरोधाभास का स्पष्ट रूप से उल्लेख है और इसलिए ऐसा नहीं है कि हम इस बात को उनके ध्यान में नहीं लाए हैं।

प्रो० अलका क्षत्रिय: सर, मेरा दूसरा सप्लीमेंटरी यह है कि हम देख रहे हैं कि पिछले एक साल में कश्मीर में आतंकवाद बढ़ा है। कालूचक की घटना हो या संसद पर हमला हुआ हो, गुजरात में भी हम देख रहे हैं कि जो घटना घटी है, अक्षरधाम मंदिर के ऊपर हमला हुआ, उसके

लिए कौन जिम्मेदार है? एक तरफ हमारी सरकार, प्रधानमंत्री जी, गृह मंत्री जी यह कहते हैं कि हम आर-पार की लड़ाई लड़ेंगे, जरूरत पड़ने पर हम उनसे सख्ती से निपटेंगे लेकिन फिर भी ये घटनाएं घटी हैं, इसके लिए हम यह जानना चाहते हैं कि सरकार की जो बातें हैं और अभी विदेश मंत्री जी ने जो कहा है, सरकार की सारी बातें* साबित हुई हैं। तो सरकार की इस नीति के संबंध में मैं यह जानना चाहती हूँ कि सरकार इस देश में कौन सी नीति अपना रही है और क्या करना चाहती है?* बातों से कुछ नहीं होता, एक साल से लगातार घटनाएं घटती जा रही हैं, बढ़ती जा रही हैं, हमारी संसद तक वे लोग आ गए हैं, तो आप बताइए कि आप क्या करना चाहते हैं?

श्री यशवंत सिन्हा: सभापति महोदय, ये जो घटनाएं घटी हैं आतंकवाद की, ये सिर्फ पिछले एक साल की वारदातें नहीं हैं। हम सब इस बात को जानते हैं कि सीमा पार से आतंकवाद को जो प्रोत्साहन दिया जाता रहा है, जो समर्थन दिया जाता रहा है, वह दो दशकों से इस देश में चल रहा है और उसके खिलाफ समय-समय पर जो भी उचित कार्यवाही है, सरकार करती रही है। मैं इतना भी कहूंगा कि जो आर-पार की लड़ाई है, वह एक दिन की लड़ाई नहीं है। आर-पार की लड़ाई एक ऐसी लड़ाई है जिसमें अंततः जैसे कि हमने अन्य मामलों में इस पर विजय पाई है, हमें पूरा विश्वास है कि इस मामले में भी, जो आतंकवाद अभी चल रहा है, भारत की विजय निश्चित रूप से होगी।

श्री सभापति: माननीय सदस्या, आपने यहां* शब्द प्रयोग किया है। मैं इसको प्रोसिडिंग से निकालता हूँ।

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: Sir, while it is true that infiltration from across the border has increased, compared to the corresponding months of the previous years, the media report shows that Pakistan would like to continue its efforts to destabilise India via Kashmir, in spite of the fact that the people of Jammu & Kashmir have reposed their full faith in the Constitution, unity and integrity of India, by taking an active part in the recently held, peaceful, elections. The hon. Minister, in his reply, has said, "The Government has clearly conveyed to the international community, including the United States, that it must exert greater pressure on Pakistan to end cross-border terrorism." I would like to know from the hon. Minister how long we are going to depend on other countries to muster their support and convince them that they should

* Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

exert pressure on Pakistan to stop cross-border terrorism. I want to know what concrete steps the Government of India is going to take, of its own, to stop cross-border terrorism. Don't you think, after the recently held elections, which have been acclaimed, across the board, that the time has come when we should tell Pakistan that enough is enough?

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Sir, first of all, let me join the hon. Member, and I am sure the whole House will join both of us, in applauding the people of Jammu & Kashmir for their courage and commitment to democracy, the manner in which the people of Jammu & Kashmir came out and voted in large numbers in the recently concluded elections is a testimony of the strength of democracy in this country generally, and in Jammu & Kashmir, in particular. Having said that, Sir, I would also like to say that as far as the figures are concerned, the hon. Member has referred to the fact that there has been an increase in infiltration. I would like to say that while infiltration has not gone down drastically, perhaps, it is not right to say that there has been an increase in infiltration.

The third point, Sir, is about the role of the international community. We did not ask the international community to get us a commitment from Pakistan. The international community itself went to Pakistan; they brought a certain commitment from the President of Pakistan to us, and in all our discussions with them, when they raise the issue of tension in South Asia, between India and Pakistan, we tell them, "The commitment was made to you; it is your responsibility to have this commitment fulfilled." If they are not in a position to have that commitment fulfilled, then they should deal with the problem. As far as we are concerned, as I have already stated, India is determined to deal with the menace of terrorism, Sir, on its own, and we are competent, we are capable, we have the necessary strength and the will-power to be able to deal with this problem and get the better of it. So, this continues to be the position of the Government of India. We are not dependent on the international community for the solution of cross-border terrorism.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Kuldip Nayyar.(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE: Sir, this "*bachcha log tali bajaa*"

[21 November, 2002]

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statement does not help. We want to know that concrete steps are being taken.

SHRI KULDIP NAYYAR: Sir, the Prime Minister, in one of his statements, has said that there are different standards of assessing terrorism, one for India, and another for others. He was referring to the international community. I want to know how come that we have not been able to put across our case to the international community. Are there some nations which are supporting us? Are there some nations which are working on our behalf to see that cross-border terrorism stops? At the moment, as the Prime Minister said, it seems that international community, by and large, does not understand our case.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Sir, the honourable Member is absolutely right in pointing out that the Prime Minister, whenever the occasion has arisen, has clarified that there is a discordance, there is a disconnect between the attitude adopted by some members of the international community, as far as terrorism in India and Pakistan, or Pakistan sponsored terrorism into India, is concerned. This is the position which the Government of India has held for quite some time. I remember my distinguished predecessor, in one of the interviews, had said that there could not be a distinction; we could not describe terrorists as good terrorists and bad terrorists and bad terrorists are those who attack one set of countries and good terrorists are those who attack another set of countries. This is something which we have kept on pointing out to the international community and we will keep on doing so until they obliterate this difference and understand this point of view globally. In a recent interview, I myself have said that the terrorist who comes to Jammu and Kashmir, who comes to India, is the same terrorist who goes to Bali, who goes to Europe, who goes to the United States of America. And, therefore, it is a grievous error to make a distinction between the kind of terrorists who are going to one part of the world and the kind of terrorists who are going to another part of the world. It is not that we are not making this point. We are making this point to the international community on every occasion and we are making it forcefully. But, as I said, there is a contradiction, there is a disconnect, and we will continue to strive to ensure that this is eliminated as soon as possible.

SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR: Sir, the recent statement of the American Ambassador is indeed welcome. I think he has decisively stated that India is a victim of terror from across the broder. But, the burden of the question put to the Hon'ble Minister for External Affairs is whether in our diplomatic initiatives and efforts we have succeeded in enlisting concrete responses from America to translate them into concrete action in favour of India and against Pakistan, whether the Indian diplomacy has succeeded isolating Pakistan, as we claimed. Sir, we know that in the last resort, every country has to rely on its own resources, on its own resilience to defend its integrity. But, we also know that diplomacy, as a tool of international peace,,is now an accepted part of our endeavours. We have, for long, heard lowly officers like Richard Boucher state that Pakistan is a stalwart ally in the fight against terror. Has anybody senior in the American administration recognised that India's voice needs to be heard and heard not only at par with Pakistan but over and above Pakistan because Pakistan is the initiator of terror and we are the victims of terror. Sir, my question is: What are the concrete positive responses in favour of India that we have been able to wrest from America? Thank you, Sir.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Sir, if the Hon'ble Member were to look at the statements which have been issued by various countries and various groups of countries — for instance, the European Union, G-8, United States of America, Great Britain, the U.K. — not only from the United States of America, but also from the International community generally, you will find that over the last year or so, all these countries and groups of countries have clearly recognised the fact that cross border terrorism is taking place at the behest and with the support of Pakistan. They have also called upon Pakistan repeatedly to desist from this. This has not happened automatically or all of a sudden. This has happened as a result of diplomatic initiatives taken by India. We have been able to explain our case. This was not the case in the past. Therefore, this change in the attitude of the international community recognising Pakistan as the sponsor of cross- border terrorism is, quite clearly, a major step forward in our favour. So, it is not that the Indian diplomacy is sitting quietly. It is not that the Indian diplomacy is not active

on this front. We have been active and we have succeeded in convincing the international community of the menace of cross-border terrorism.

DR. MANMOHAN SINGH: Mr. Chairman, Sir, the hon. Minister has talked about a comprehensive strategy, domestically and internationally, to tackle the problems of cross-border terrorism. He has also talked about the additional measures that the international community should take. Would the hon. Minister tell us whether there are any additional measures which the Government of India has suggested to the international community and, if so, what have been their responses?

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Sir, in all our dialogues with various members of the international community, we have impressed upon them, as the reply to the question shows, the need for learning more heavily on Pakistan, if they are seriously interested in disciplining Pakistan and bringing Pakistan to put an end to cross-border terrorism. We have told them very clearly that a number of steps are available, if they want to put that kind of pressure on Pakistan. But, as I have pointed out and various Members of this House have pointed out here, at this point of time, it is quite clear that there is a distance up to which the members of the international community want to travel vis-a-vis Pakistan and, clearly, they do not want to go beyond that, for reasons which are well known. Therefore, we will have to continue, as and when the international community raises those issues with us, to press them on this point. But, as I have said, and I have repeatedly taken the House into confidence, we have made this statement earlier also that this is a fight which India has to wage because it is our fight. To the extent to which the international community can come to our help, they are welcome. To the extent to which they cannot, for various reasons, for various compulsions, we will continue this fight on our own.

SHRI SHANKAR ROY CHOWDHURY: Mr. Chairman, Sir, the hon. Minister has mentioned that it is our fight, and rightly so. Ultimately, India will have to take concrete steps to win this battle. Hon. Members have put various questions regarding specific concrete steps. One of them, I presume, is the "Operation Parakram". Is it possible for the hon. Minister

to give us an assessment of the overall effect of the "Operation Parakram" in our efforts to combat terrorism as also its influence on the international community?

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Sir, when the Government of India decided to redeploy our troops, we made a statement officially that the objectives with which the mobilisation had taken place had been achieved. India had sent a clear message to Pakistan and to the international community that since we have to fight cross-border terrorism, we will be prepared to take any step that is necessary in order to succeed in this fight. I think that was the major objective which was achieved by the "Operation Parakram", and when we said that we had achieved this objective, this is what we meant.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

Bangladesh's Statement regarding withdrawal of Water Upstream by India

*43. SHRI YADLAPATI VENKAT RAO: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Bangladesh, in an indirect reference, has blamed India for degrading its vast areas and land and worsening poverty by withdrawal of water upstream; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA): (a) According to Bangladesh media reports, at the Asia-Pacific Consultation Workshop on Water and Poverty, Begum Khaleda Zia, Prime Minister of Bangladesh had stated that unilateral intervention at the upper riparian region in the flows of common rivers worsens poverty situation of lower-riparian country like Bangladesh because water is very important for an agrarian economy.

(b) India and Bangladesh have been actively cooperating and interacting on all issues including those relating to sharing of waters of