

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
HOME AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:349

ANSWERED ON:24.07.2001

KASHMIR ISSUE

KANTI SINGH;MADHAVRAO SCINDIA;PRABODH PANDA;RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH;RAJESH RANJAN (PAPPU YADAV)

**Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Prime Minister has nominated Shri K.C. Pant to initiate a political dialogue with all sections of the people of J&K to find a wayout for a permanent peace in the State;
- (b) if so, the details of parties, groups and other organisations consulted for the purpose and that came forward for talks with him; and
- (c) the progress so far made in this endeavour?

**Answer**

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

(a): In order to promote a vigorous movement towards establishment of peace and tranquility, Shri K.C. Pant, Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission has been nominated to hold political dialogue with representatives of all walks of life from among the people of Jammu & Kashmir.

(b) & (c): Shri K.C. Pant has had interactions with various individuals [such as Shri Syed MirQasim, former Chief Minister of J&K ; Shri Balraj Puri, Journalist and Human Rights activist; Qazi Amanullah, Mirwaiz South Kashmir; etc] and representatives of political parties/NGOs/local media/human right bodies/religious heads, etc [such as National Conference, Bhartiya Janata Party, Congress, J&K Democratic Freedom Party, Awami National Conference, Panun Kashmir, Ladakh Buddhist Association, Leh Autonomous Hill Development Council, Imam Khomeni memorial Trust, J&K National Front, Jammu Mukti Morcha etc.] for ascertaining their views or the issue. He also visited Jammu & Kashmir during May 28th to June 2nd , 2001 for the purpose. The response has been encouraging.