

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:904

ANSWERED ON:29.11.2005

TALKS WITH HURRIYAT

Chavan Shri Harischandra Deoram;Owaisi Shri Asaduddin;Patel Shri Kishanbhai Vestabhai;Singh Shri Sugrib

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a delegation of Hurriyat met the Government to discuss the peace process in the Jammu and Kashmir during September,2005;
- (b) if so, the details of discussion held;
- (c) whether Hurriyat leaders have asked the Government to take some bold steps to boost the peace process;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether Union Government has assured to review cases of detention under POTA and Public Safety Act;
- (f) if so, the details thereof; and
- (g) the strategy chalked out in the meeting to bring peace in the valley?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWSAL)

(a) to (g) : Yes sir. The Prime Minister met a delegation of All Party Hurriyat Conference (APHC) led by Mirwaiz Umar Farooq on September 5, 2005. During the talks, the Prime Minister reaffirmed his faith in a peaceful resolution of all issues pertaining to Jammu and Kashmir and reiterated the Government's stance that violence has no role in a democracy. The APHC delegation stressed that an honourable and durable solution should be found through dialogue. It was agreed that the only way forward is to ensure that all forms of violence at all levels should come to an end. It was also agreed to carry forward the dialogue process so that all regions and all shades of political opinion in Jammu and Kashmir are involved.

In pursuance of the talks held by the Hon`ble Prime Minister with the APHC, a meeting of the Joint Screening Committee was held in Srinagar on 3-10-2005 and the cases of persons under detention under the Jammu and Kashmir Public Safety Act, 1978 were reviewed. The Committee recommended the release of forty four (44) detenues. The State Government accepted the recommendation and issued orders for the release of the persons recommended by the Committee.

The Government considers this as a good beginning and hopes that the dialogue with all the groups in the State will lead to an honourable solution to all issues relating to Jammu and Kashmir.