

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:392

ANSWERED ON:26.07.2006

PARDON SOUGHT BY LTTE

Subba Shri Moni Kumar;Yadav Shri Baleshwar

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

(a) whether the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) of Sri Lanka has allegedly taken the responsibility of the assassination of Late Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi publicly and has begged pardon for that tragedy;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Union Government in this regard?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b) Government have noted the interview given by LTTE's ideologue, Anton Balasingham, to NDTV on June 27, 2006 wherein he has expressed "regret" for the assassination of Late Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi and sought Indian involvement in the peace process in Sri Lanka.

(c) LTTE continues to be a proscribed organisation in India and its leaders are "proclaimed offenders" in the case involving the assassination of Late Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi.