

Asian - Eurasian Human Rights Forum

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Meena Sur, Programme Officer, NGO Sectio/DESA

Dated: 17.04.2006

Ref: (i) Your letter of May 10, 2005 and our reply of May 12, 2005;

(ii) Your email of 24 January 2006 (copy enclosed)

Madam.

Our NGO, Asian-Eurasian Human Rights Forum would like to submit the following revised response to the points stated in your letter mentioned above.

- 1. We are aware of a dispute between Pakistan and India over the territory of the State of Jammu and Kashmir. Confining ourselves to the human rights aspects of the dispute and distancing from its political undertones, we appreciate and support the efforts of the two states for resolving their outstandidisputes including Kashmir through a bilateral dialogue. In the process we strongly feel that human rights of the people of the disputed state need to be protected fully.
- 2. We all know that in the aftermath of the partition of the sub-continent in 1947, a large number of people were forced to flee their homes. Unfortunately, Jammu region, too, could not escape the share of its agony. Those brutal pogroms did affect the demographic complexion of the regions of the subcontinent that were drawn into the vortex of orgies of killing, loot and arson. However, with the passage of time rehabilitation took place gradually.
- 3. While referring to the radicals, we had in mind the statements and efforts of the Saudi as well as Pakistani governments in confronting the radicals bent upon disrupting law and order. We highly appreciate their commendable role of fighting terror in order to preserve and promote international peace. We cannot overlook the fact that attempts were made by the radicals even on the life of the President of Pakistan let alone innocent and ordinary civilians elsewhere. We speak only of extremists proliferating to other regions and resorting to terror. We have not said anything against any country or government.
- 4. Our NGO has been speaking of violation of human rights in some of the Central Asian states like Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan where, in the name of countering the radicals of IMU or HT etc., innocent people have been put behind the bars and allowed to languish without a fair trial. We have also raised the issue of rigged elections in some parts of Central Asia. We have often said and also written about the rights of the people displaced as a result of construction of mega dams in parts of India and the rights of people to water sharing particularly in Southern Indian states where in some places farmers committed suicide because of draught and crop failures. We said they had a right to life.
- 5. Copies of our NGO's monthly publication have already been submitted as enclosures to our letter of 12 May 2005.

With regards.

Kashinath Pandita General Secretary Asian-Eurasian Human Rights Forum

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24 January 2006

Ref: 2006 Regular Session of the Committee on NGOs (19-27 January 2006)

Dear Mr. Kashinath Pandita,

The Committee on Non-Governmental awaits a revised response that was requested on the sensitive issues raised by your organization in the dialogue with the Committee at its 2005 Resumed session.

Kindly send your revised response as soon as possible so that the committee may continue to review your application during its current session that concludes on 27 January 2006. Please send in your response to surm@un.org

Sincerely yours,

Programme Officer NGO Section/DESA

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