

PARLIAMENTARY JOINT COMMITTEE on INTELLIGENCE AND SECURITY

MEDIA ALERT

Issued: 19 March 2015

Review of the re-listing Ansar al-Islam, Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan, Lahkar-e Jhangvi and Jaish-e-Mohammad as terrorist organisations

Committee to review re-listing of four terrorist organisations

The Parliamentary Joint Committee on Intelligence and Security will review the re-listing of four terrorist organisations under the *Criminal Code Act 1995* (Criminal Code):

- Ansar al-Islam, a Sunni Islamist militant group that operates mainly in the north-west region of Iraq, is ideologically aligned with al-Qa'ida and aims to overthrow the Iraqi government;
- Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan, which aims to establish an Islamic state in Uzbekistan
 and has reportedly pledged allegiance to the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL);
- Lashkar-e Jhangvi, a Sunni Islamist terrorist group that seeks to establish an Islamist Sunni state in Pakistan based on Sharia law, by violent means if necessary; and
- Jaish-e-Mohammad, a Pakistan-based fundamentalist Sunni Islamist group that advocates terrorism and aims to unite Indian Administered Kashmir with Pakistan under a radical interpretation of Islamic law.

The re-listings, which came into effect on 3 March 2015, represent the fifth consecutive time the groups have been re-listed under the Criminal Code since their initial listings in 2003.

Listing of an organisation under the Criminal Code makes it an offence to direct the activities of, be a member of, recruit for, train for and receive training from that organisation. It is also a criminal offence to get funds to, from or for, provide support to and associate with members of that organisation.

Under section 102.1A of the Criminal Code, the Parliamentary Joint Committee on Intelligence and Security may review listings of terrorist organisations and report on the Committee's findings within the 15 sitting day parliamentary disallowance period.

Members of the public are welcome to make submissions to this review. Submissions should be received no later than **Friday**, **10 April 2015**.

Further information about the four organisations and the re-listing process are contained within the Attorney-General's submissions, which can be accessed via the Committee's website at http://www.aph.gov.au/picis.

For more information, please contact the Committee Secretariat on **02 6277 2360** or email pjcis@aph.gov.au.

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