Government Declares MLJK-MA as Unlawful Association

The Government of India has officially designated the 'Muslim League Jammu Kashmir (Masarat Alam faction)' (MLJK-MA) as an 'Unlawful Association' under Section 3(1) of the <u>Unlawful Activities</u> (Prevention) Act (UAPA) 1967.

- This decision is underscored by the organization's alleged engagement in anti-national and secessionist activities, explicit support for terrorism, and its purported role in inciting efforts to establish Islamic rule in Jammu and Kashmir.
- MLJK-MA is a separatist political organization in Jammu and Kashmir, led by Masarat Alam Bhat, a former militant.
- The UAPA, 1967, initially aimed at addressing secessionist movements and anti-national activities, has undergone multiple amendments.
 - The latest amendment in 2019 incorporated provisions concerning terrorist financing, cyber-terrorism, individual designation, and property seizure.
- This legislation grants the <u>National Investigation Agency (NIA)</u> authority to investigate and prosecute cases under UAPA nationwide jurisdiction.
 - According to Section 3(1) of the UAPA 1967, if the Central Government is of opinion that any association is, or has become, an unlawful association, it may, by notification in the Official Gazette, declare such association to be unlawful.

Read more: Assessing the Unlawful Activities Prevention Act

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