

Indian Express Nov 13, 1991

The Kashmir Q

Sir,

This refers to “A case for soul searching” by KF Rustamji (IE , Nov, 4).

While one cannot but agree with Mr Rustamji that the Kashmir problem is of our own creation, it would be difficult to subscribe to the view that the so called communalists are responsible for creating the present situation in Kashmir. The blame must rest squarely on those who have been at the helm of affairs in Kashmir from the time of its accession till the out-break of the present insurgency both at the central and state levels. The present insurgency in Kashmir is nothing but a continuation of Pakistan’s military intervention through a war by proxy.

Pakistan realised the efficacy of the proxy war against a militarily superior opponent only after having failed in two open wars over Kashmir. Political manipulations by the Congress for gaining a foot-hold in Kashmir and the maladministration in the State under Farooq Abdullah resulting in the people getting disgusted provided Pakistan with an ideal setting for giving effect to its changed strategy.

Major K. BRAHMA SINGH (Retd)
JAMMU