

## Home Minister: No fresh grounds for detaining Masarat Alam

Written by JPNN

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JPNN |New Delhi| March 12, 2015 |Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh on Thursday informed Parliament that fresh detention orders for separatist Masarat Alam were not issued because there were no new grounds for detaining him as mandated by a Supreme Court ruling. In a statement to both Houses, he said though Mr. Alam had been released, surveillance would continue on him and his associates in the interest of public order. The Minister made this statement after the Opposition accused the Government on Wednesday of misleading the House by stating that the Jammu & Kashmir Government had not consulted the Centre before releasing the separatist. The Opposition levelled this charge against the Government after it became known that the decision to release him was taken in February when the State was under Central rule. This is the second time since March 1 – when the PDP–BJP Government assumed charge in J&K – that the Modi Government has been forced on the defensive by the actions of its new ally in the State. The very next day, the Opposition attacked the Government for J&K Chief Minister Mufti Mohammad Sayeed giving credit to separatists and outsiders for the smooth conduct of polls in the State. Agency