Ceasefire in Jammu and Kashmir

Why in news?

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Anti-militancy operations in Jammu and Kashmir were halted recently after the request by the J&K Chief Minister.

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Why was the ceasefire announced in J&K?

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- Ceasefire was announced by the Union government after the request of J& K Chief Minister.
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- This request was made to maintain peace in the valley during the holy month of Ramadan and peaceful conduct of Amarnath yatra.
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- Usually, ceasefire is the period when the separatist forces have dialogue with the government or security forces.
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What are the previous instances of ceasefire in J&K?

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- There are many instances of ceasefire or temporary truce between the security forces and the militants.
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- **1994 – Yasin Malik, the chief of J&K Liberation Front announced unilateral ceasefire and due to no response from government turned his militant outfit into a separatist political party.**
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- **2000 – Hizbul Mujahideen announced a halt in its operations and the government promptly reciprocated by halting anti-militancy operations, after which they entered into a dialogue.**
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- **2000 - Unilateral ceasefire was announced by the union government on the eve of Ramadan, but the militant outfits rejected it and kept attacking the security forces.**
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What was the reason for temporary nature of these ceasefires?

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- These ceasefires are not aimed at bringing a permanent solution to the complex issues around J&K, but seen as a temporary truce in the region.
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- Most of the instances where ceasefires are announced were due to political aspirations by the parties.
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- The government used ceasefires as a tool to reduce the outburst of militancy outfits, by bringing them to the table for dialogues.
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- When the militant or separatist organisations call for ceasefire, it is mostly due fulfil some demand from the government.
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- Therefore, all stakeholders in this issue has to discuss for a permanent solution instead of temporary truces.
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Source: The Indian Express

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