

(b) to (d) Due to the Government's strong and purposive international engagement, the international community, including the United States, recognises Pakistan's links with cross-border terrorism in India and the responsibility and the commitment of the Government of Pakistan to put an end to it. It is for the Government of the United States to examine whether Pakistan meets the criteria prescribed by the U.S. domestic law for designating a country as a state sponsor of terrorism.

Regrouping of Taliban in Afghanistan

2415. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any information about the regrouping of Taliban in Afghanistan;

(b) whether they are getting foreign aids;

(c) if so, the known sources of aid to Taliban;

(d) whether the available information has been passed on to the Governments of USA and UK; and

(e) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) to (e) There have been reports of the Taliban and Al-Qaida cadres re-grouping along the eastern and southeastern parts of Afghanistan-Pakistan border, and receiving support from across the border.

Information and assessment in this regard, and its impact on return of peace in Afghanistan, as well as regional peace and stability are regularly shared in interactions with other interested countries.

British Foreign Secretary's visit to India and Pakistan

2416. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the British Foreign Secretary visited Pakistan after his talks with the Indian leaders and returned to India with some feed back;