

(f) whether Government has taken up this matter of damage being caused to the Himalayan ecology with China; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI PRENEET KAUR): (a) and (b) Government has seen reports about development of infrastructure in the Tibet Autonomous Region of the People's Republic of China aimed at development of China's western region, including the construction of a road to Mt. Everest.

(c) No.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Under the Government's National Action Plan on Climate Change, a National Mission for Sustaining the Himalayan Ecosystem will be established to evolve measures for sustaining and safeguarding the Himalayas.

(f) and (g) No. Does not arise.

PSI of US administration

1393. SHRI P.R. RAJAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the United States administrations has sounded out to India on their Proliferations Security Initiatives (PSI);

(b) whether India adopt any decision on PSI; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI PRENEET KAUR): (a) Yes. The US has shared with us the details and rationale of the Proliferation Security Initiative (PSI).

(b) and (c) Indian officials have attended some meetings of the PSI as 'Observers'. There is no decision to join the PSI.

Meeting on Indus Water Treaty

1394. SHRI P.R. RAJAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there was a meeting of technological committee on Indus Water Treaty between India and Pakistan, recently;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that Pakistan demanded a compensation for allegedly not providing adequate water for the country last year; and

(c) if so, Government's response thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT PALA): (a) Under the provisions of the Indus Waters Treaty 1960 between India and Pakistan, the Permanent Indus Commission (PIC) held its 103rd meeting in New Delhi during 31 May – 5 June, 2009.

(b) and (c) During the earlier meeting of the PIC held in October, 2008, the Pakistan Commissioner of Indus Waters had sought compensation in the shape of water, claiming receipt of reduced flow in river Chenab by Pakistan due to the initial filling of Baglihar Hydroelectric Plant by India. The matter was also discussed in the 103rd meeting. During the discussions, Pakistan Commissioner was categorically informed that there is no substance in his allegations.

Lord Buddha statue in Pakistan

†1395. SHRI AMIR ALAM KHAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether terrorist have made an attempt to blow off the ancient statue of Lord Buddha in violence hit Swat valley in north-eastern part of Pakistan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has raised this matter with Pakistan;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI PRENEET KAUR): (a) Yes. This was reported in September, 2007.

(b) According to the reports the statue was badly damaged.

(c) No.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) The statue is in Pakistan. It is for the Government of Pakistan to protect such ancient heritage.

Reduction of jobs in Britain

1396. SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the British Government has reduced the number of jobs available to the migrants from outside the European Union, including from India;

(b) if so, the likely effect of the new policy on Indian migrants working in UK as also those proposing to migrate in United Kingdom;

(c) whether Government of India has taken up the matter with British Government; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.