

(c) whether Government have raised this matter with Government of China in view of safety of Indian borders; and

(d) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Yes.

(b) Government are aware of some media reports in this regard.

(c) and (d) Government keep a constant watch on all developments having a bearing on India's security and takes all necessary measures to safeguard it.

Joint mechanism for terrorism

1076. SHRIMATI HEMA MALINI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some democratic countries alleged that Pakistan is the epicenter of terrorist activities; and

(b) if so, in what manner Government are agreeing to launch a joint operation with Pakistan against terrorism?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Some officials of certain countries involved in International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) in Afghanistan are reported to have said that the tribal areas of Pakistan bordering Afghanistan have become a 'safe haven' for terrorists. There have also been media reports about the links of Pakistan based terrorist groups in terrorist activities in other countries.

(b) There is no proposal now to launch a joint operation with Pakistan against terrorism. However, the Joint Terrorism mechanism has been launched with its first meeting held in Pakistan.

Nuclear cooperation with USA

1077. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that inspite of various talks with the U.S.A. differences remain on testing, fuel guarantees in respect of nuclear cooperation agreement;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that India had handed over a draft 123 text to the U.S.;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the response received from U.S. on the draft 123 given to them?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (e) India and U.S. are engaged in discussion and negotiation to conclude the bilateral cooperation agreement, which is referred to as the "123 Agreement". One round of negotiations has taken place in June 2006. Drafts have been exchanged by both sides. It would be premature to comment on details of the drafts or the negotiations as the process is underway.

Indian territories in Chinese maps

1078. SHRI M. V. MYSURA REDDY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that world maps and globes showing Kashmir and Arunachal Pradesh as integral part and territory of China are being sold and circulated in China;

(b) if so, whether Government have taken any efforts/measures to rectify the same; and

(c) if so, the details of action/efforts/measures taken by Government?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Yes.

(b) and (c) Government have conveyed to the Chinese side that Jammu and Kashmir and Arunachal Pradesh are integral parts of India. India and China are also engaged in discussions to arrive at a fair, reasonable and mutually acceptable solution to the boundary question at an early date.