

Indo-China pact on hotline

3750. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India and China have signed pact on hotline recently;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the MoUs signed, so far;
- (d) the implementation status thereof; and
- (e) the objectives of such pact?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI PRENEET KAUR): (a) to (e) During the visit of the External Affairs Minister to China from 5-8 April 2010, the two countries signed the Agreement between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the People's Republic of China on the Establishment of the Direct Secure Telephone Link between the Prime Minister of India and the Chinese Premier. Such a link will enable the two Prime Ministers to maintain direct, telephonic contact on matters of importance to both countries.

Using of missions abroad to curb terrorism

3751. DR. K. MALAISAMY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the reasons for the country in recent years, virtually ignoring the importance of using its Missions abroad to constantly focus attention on global implications of cross border terrorism;
- (b) whether it would be wise to change this lackadaisical approach but to go all out to make others felt this grave danger; and
- (c) whether the country is capable of handling it successfully from its strength, competency and resource in every way in case, it takes a serious deliberate decision to curb Pakistan originated terrorism and infiltration?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI PRENEET KAUR): (a) and (b) In recent years, the Ministry of External Affairs and its Missions abroad have raised, and continue to raise, the issue of cross border terrorism in order to focus global attention on this menace. As part of this active effort, this issue is also raised at the highest levels of bilateral and multilateral dialogue, including most recently by the Prime Minister at the Summits in Washington DC (12-13 April 2010) and Brasilia (15-16 April 2010).

(c) The Government has been, on a continuing basis, reviewing the security arrangements in the light of the emerging challenges, and a number of important decisions and measures have been taken. These measures, *inter-alia*, include augmenting the strength of Central Para-Military Forces; amendment of the CISF Act to enable deployment of CISF in joint venture and private industrial undertakings; establishment of NSG hubs at Chennai, Kolkata, Hyderabad and Mumbai; empowerment of DG, NSG to requisition aircraft for movement of NSG personnel in the event of any emergency; strengthening and re-organizing of Multi-Agency Centre to enable it to function on 24x7 basis for real time collation and sharing of intelligence with other intelligence and security agencies; tighter immigration control, and effective border management through border fencing, flood lighting, deployment of surveillance equipment and coastal security. The Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967 has been amended and notified in 2008 to strengthen the punitive measures to combat terrorism. The National Investigation Agency has been constituted under the National Investigation Act, 2008 to investigate and prosecute offences under the Acts specified in the Schedule. Suitable steps have been initiated to establish the proposed National Counter Terrorism Centre. As a part of steps to counter terrorists' threats, the National Intelligence Grid (NATGRID) is also envisaged. Closer cooperation and easy flow of vital intelligence between various states & central intelligence agencies have also been ensured.

Indo-Bangladesh talks

3752. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether during the Indo-Bangladesh talks held recently at New Delhi, an interim agreement has been reached on the issue of Teesta river water sharing;
- (b) if so, the facts and the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has also insisted on shorting out certain other technical issues;
- (d) if so, the facts and details thereof; and
- (e) to what extent have the recent talks between the two countries helped resolve outstanding issues?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT PALA): (a) No, Sir.

- (b) Question does not arise, in view of reply (a).