(c) whether the action of the US Government violates or is contrary to the spirit of any international agreement between India and US or is contrary to any UN convention;

(d) whether Government of the United States have been approached by our Government in this regard; and

(e) if so, the reaction of the US authorities thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI PRENEET KAUR): (a) to (e) Government of India has conveyed its concerns to the United States Government on the protectionist sentiment in USA.

The Government remains fully alert to all developments that affect Indian companies and their employees. During the visit of US President Barack Obama to India from 6-9 November, 2010, Prime Minister and President Obama agreed on steps to reduce trade barriers and protectionist measures and also agreed to facilitate movement of professionals, investors and business travelers, students and exchange visitors between their countries and enhance their economic and technological partnership.

India-Myanmar-Thailand corridor

3286. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to open the India-Myanmar-Thailand highway corridor through China;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of estimated expenditure likely to be incurred on the said project;

(d) whether there is any plan to develop the traditional silk route from the North-Eastern region to Singapore *via* China;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the action taken so far by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI PRENEET KAUR): (a) to (c) No, there is no proposal to open the India-Myanmar-Thailand highway corridor through China. However, discussion to construct India-Myanmar-Thailand Trilateral Highway have taken place and India has taken up the preparation of DPRs (Detailed Project Report) for stretches of roads/bridges inside Myanmar closer to India-Myanmar Border. Thailand has agreed to do likewise inside Myanmar closer to Myanmar-Thailand border. No cost estimate is available for the Trilateral Highway.

(d) No.

(e) and (f) Do not arise.

Indo-China foreign ministers meet

†3287. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that issues pertaining to India's Jammu and Kashmir, border dispute and other mutual disputes were taken up during mutual discussion of foreign Ministers of India and China recently;

(b) if so, the details of the said issues;

(c) whether Chinese delegation expressed views on each issue; and

(d) if so, the details of the views expressed by them on each issue raised by Indian delegation for discussion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI PRENEET KAUR): (a) to (d) External Affairs Minister met with his Chinese counterpart in Wuhan, China on 14 November, 2010 on the sidelines of the India-Russia-China Trilateral Foreign Ministers Meeting. During the meeting the two sides had a frank and constructive discussion on all issues of mutual interest and concern, including cooperation in political, economic and functional areas. The two Foreign Ministers also discussed the issue of mutual sensitivity to each other's concerns. The two sides expressed satisfaction on the overall evolution of India-China bilateral relations.

Denial of visa to doctors from Jammu and Kashmir

†3288. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY:
SHRI PRABHAT JHA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that China has denied to give visa to five doctors of Jammu and Kashmir for visiting Beijing;

(b) if so, the details thereof and whether Government has registered its objection to Government of China in this regard; and

(c) if so, the reaction of Chinese officials in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI PRENEET KAUR): (a) to (c) Government has seen media reports to such effect. India's consistent position that there should be no discrimination against visa applicants of Indian nationality on grounds of domicile and ethnicity has been

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.