
(b) the follow-up action which Government proposes to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI PRENEET KAUR): (a) and (b) During the visit of the US President to India in November 2010, the two leaders affirmed that their countries' common ideals, complementary strengths and a shared commitment to a world without nuclear weapons give them a responsibility to forge a strong partnership to lead global efforts for non-proliferation and universal and non-discriminatory global nuclear disarmament in the 21st century. The Government continues to support universal and non-discriminatory global nuclear disarmament in discussions with various countries.

US professional visa fee hike

3293. SHRI R.C. SINGH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has opposed the US professional visa fee hike and the ban on outsourcing of Government contracts;

(b) if so, the response from US on the above protest;

(c) whether the above move of US does not constitute protectionist measures; and

(d) if so, in what manners Government is planning to resolve the issue?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI PRENEET KAUR): (a) to (d) Government of India has conveyed its concerns to the United States Government over the protectionist sentiment in the US and possible adverse impact of the recent hike in the fee for H1B and L visa arising from a new law enacted by the US Congress in August, 2010 to raise funds for US border security measures.

During the visit of President 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 travellers, students and exchange visitors between their countries and enhance their economic and technological partnership.

Persuading neighbouring countries for seat in UNSC

3294. SHRI RAASHID ALVI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of India has approached the neighbouring countries in general and China and Pakistan in particular to support India to get a permanent seat in security council of U.N.; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?