

(b) There is no information available to indicate whether any 5000 MW capacity power projects have been awarded to Bangladesh by other countries.

(c) The National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) of India has signed a Joint Venture Agreement with Bangladesh Power Development Corporation (BPDC) in August, 2010 for the setting up a 1320 MW coal based power plant in Khulna, Bangladesh.

China working on IT project in Maldives and Nepal

†1138. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that China is working on an IT project in Maldives and two Chinese companies are engaged in laying modern telecom network in Nepal too;

(b) whether security agencies have expressed the possibility that China may intercept and monitor the messages exchanged between India-Nepal and India-Maldives through these instruments;

(c) if so, the steps taken by Government to tackle this situation; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED): (a) to (d) Government have seen reports of Chinese firms implementing IT and telecom projects in the Maldives and Nepal. Government are aware of China's enhanced economic and technological capabilities in execution of projects in developing countries. Government keeps a constant watch on all developments having a bearing on India's security and takes all necessary measures to safeguard it.

Indian victims of American hate-crime

1139. SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN SINGH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that Indians are the main targets of American hate-crime;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) whether Government is also aware that recently an 46-year old Kolkata born Indian was pushed in front of a train in New York by hate-spewing Hispanic woman;

(c) if so, the reaction of Indian Government to such hate-crime of Americans towards Indians; and

(d) whether any protest have been lodged with American Embassy on these incidents and if so, the details in this regard and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED): (a) The Government is aware of incidents of crime involving loss of life or injury to Indians residing in the United States. Not all these incidents can be termed as hate-crimes, as investigations by U.S. authorities have identified most of these recorded incidents as cases of robbery, personal rivalry, looting, etc.

(b) Yes. The assailant, a 31-year-old Hispanic lady, was arrested by U.S. authorities on 29 December, 2012 and charged with second degree murder. She is believed to be mentally disturbed and the Court has ordered her for a psychiatric evaluation.

(c) and (d) Government brings to the attention of U.S. federal and local authorities through its Embassy and Consulates in the United States, all incidents, including incidents of hate-crime, which affect the safety and security of Indian nationals residing in the United States. This particular issue has been raised with the U.S. Government at all levels, which has been requested to ensure the safety of all Indians and prevent the recurrence of such incidents in the future. U.S. authorities have underlined on a number of occasions their commitment to the safety of all residents in the United States, including people of foreign origin.

Subsidy for Haj quota

1140. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN:

SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has reduced the subsidy of Haj quota; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED): (a) and (b) No. The expenditure incurred by the Government