

**Chinese agreement with Pakistan to construct
nuclear reactor**

3294. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether “The Washington Free Beacon” reported that China has secretly entered into an agreement with Pakistan to construct a third nuclear reactor at Chashma in Punjab province;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Beijing’s promises under an international anti-nuclear weapons accord has been violated; and

(d) if so, the steps Government is taking to lodge a protest with the Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG) and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED): (a) to (d) Government has seen media reports regarding the supply of nuclear reactors from China to Pakistan. Government is aware of China-Pakistan nuclear cooperation and has clearly conveyed its concerns to the Chinese side. The issue of supply of nuclear reactors from China to Pakistan has been raised by Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG) Participating Governments in previous NSG meetings. India is not a member of the NSG. Government keeps a constant watch on all developments having a bearing on India's national interest and takes all necessary measures to safeguard it.

Use of Bangladeshi port for trans-shipment of foodgrains

3295. DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indo-Bangladesh diplomatic ties suffered a set back following Bangladesh’s refusal to allow India to use its port for trans-shipment of foodgrains to North-Eastern States;

(b) if so, whether the Minister has taken up the matter with the Bangladesh Government during his visit to Bangladesh in the recent past;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and