

India has urged China to ensure that the interests of downstream States are not harmed by any activities in upstream areas.

The Chinese side has conveyed to us on several occasions that they are only undertaking run-of-the-river hydropower projects which do not involve diversion of the waters of the Brahmaputra. We intend to remain engaged with China on the issue of trans-border rivers to safeguard our interest.

China's support to counter cross border terrorism

1773. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is planning to garner China's support to persuade Pakistan to desist from sponsoring cross-border terrorism, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the response of China in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI M. J. AKBAR): (a) and (b) China has often repeated its concern on spread of terrorism and their desire to cooperate with us on this issue. On several occasions, China has reiterated with us their resolute opposition to terrorism in all its forms and manifestations with 'zero tolerance', and has agreed that there is no justification for terrorism.

Government has consistently highlighted to China regarding the threat of cross border terrorism emanating from Pakistan and affecting the region, including India. Specifically, we have emphasized forcefully that while the Pakistan based Jaish-e-Mohammed has been proscribed by the UN Security Council Sanctions Committee established under UNSC Resolutions 1267/1989/2253, as far back as 2001 for its well known terror activities and links to the Al Qaeda, the designation of JeM's main leader, financier and motivator Masood Azhar has been repeatedly put on a technical hold. Accordingly, we have urged China to reverse its technical hold on India's request to list Masood Azhar under 1267 provisions. India's request is co-sponsored by several prominent countries.

Effects of new foreign policy

†1774. SHRI NARESH AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the allied countries like Russia, Nepal and Sri Lanka are getting distanced from India owing to its current foreign policy, if so, the reasons therefor; and

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.