

China seeking evidence against terrorists

503. SHRI. K.R. ARJUNAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that China has sought concrete evidence about the role played by the terrorists of Jaish e-Mohammad in terror activities before seeking United Nations censure for them;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has provided any convincing response in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (GENERAL (RETD.) V.K. SINGH): (a) to (d) In February 2016, Government approached the UN Security Council Sanctions Committee established under Resolutions 1267/1989/2253 with the proposal to designate Masood Azhar under the 1267 sanction regime. It was emphasized that while the Pakistan based Jaish-e-Mohammed (JeM) had been designated by the 1267 Committee as far back as 2001 for its well known terror activities and links to the Al Qaeda, the Committee had not designated Masood Azhar who is the JeM's main leader, financier and motivator. The working procedures (guidelines) of the 1267 Committee stipulate that if an entity (organization) is designated by the Committee, its main leaders should also be designated. The requirement to designate Masood Azhar would, therefore, be self evident to the 1267 Committee.

Government has raised this issue with China, including at the highest levels, and has pointed out that China's position on listing of well known terrorists under the 1267 Sanctions regime should be in consonance with its stated positions on terrorism.

Security of Indians living in USA

504. SHRI K.R. ARJUNAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that for Government the strategic partnership with United States of America (USA) is secondary to the welfare and security to the US based people of Indian origin;