

[GEN. (RETD.) V. K. SINGH]: (a) and (b) India has noted the remarks made by the President of the United States on the withdrawal of the United States from the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) on 8 May, 2018. US has decided to re-impose sanctions on Iran as a result of its withdrawal from JCPOA.

India is not a party to the JCPOA. The other remaining parties to the JCPOA (UK, France, Germany, Russia, China, Iran and the European Union) have stated that they will abide by the Agreement. India continues to monitor the developments and study the implications of the withdrawal of the United States from the JCPOA. Government will take all necessary measures to safeguard our national interest.

Warning of USA against oil imports from Iran

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

(a) whether the United States of America has told all the countries, including India to stop their oil imports from Iran by November or face sanctions; and

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS [GEN. (RETD.) V. K. SINGH]: (a) and (b) On 08 May 2018, the US announced that it would withdraw from the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) with Iran and re-impose the U.S. sanctions, including on petroleum related transactions involving Iran, in two stages effective 6 August, 2018 and 4 November, 2018.

India has maintained that the Iranian nuclear issue should be resolved through dialogue and diplomacy by respecting Iran's right to peaceful uses of nuclear energy as also the international community's strong interest in the exclusively peaceful nature of Iran's nuclear program. All parties should engage constructively to address and resolve issues that have arisen with respect to the JCPOA.

Abduction of Indian fishermen

†193. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether cases of abducting Indian fishermen and capturing their boats has come to light;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.