

with our Mission or Consulates about Indian nationals seeking asylum in the U.S., due to privacy laws. Such asylum-seekers often avoid contact with our Mission or Consulates while their request is under consideration. Government of India believes that asylum-seekers, while applying for asylum to a foreign Government, denigrate the system in India to obtain personal gains, despite the fact that India, being a democratic country, provides avenues for everyone to redress their grievances lawfully.

#### **Foreign policy regarding China and Pakistan**

†349. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH NAGAR: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that foreign policy of Government regarding China and Pakistan has been a failure because of which incidence of infiltration from China and Pakistan has increased;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) if not, the efforts being made by Government to deal with this problem with China and Pakistan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS [GENERAL (RETD.) V. K. SINGH]: (a) to (c) Government firmly believes that there can be no compromise on the issue of cross border terrorism. India has repeatedly called upon Pakistan to abide by its commitment, not to allow any territory under its control to be used for terrorism against India in any manner and take effective actions to end terrorism and dismantle terrorist infrastructure in territory under its control. Till then, India will continue to take firm and decisive steps to respond to cross-border terrorism. This has been demonstrated by the Government on a number of occasions. Besides undertaking of cross LoC counter terrorist operations, security forces continue to appropriately respond to ceasefire violations and attempts at cross border infiltration, neutralising cross-border terrorists. Government of India, in tandem with the State Government of Jammu and Kashmir has adopted multi-pronged approach to contain cross border infiltration and strengthen the State Government security apparatus.

Government continues to consistently raise the issue of Pakistan sponsored terrorism in bilateral, regional and multilateral fora. Due to these efforts, there is international recognition of the dangers posed by terrorism emanating from Pakistan and reflected in various joint statements issued during bilateral visits and multilateral summits.

---

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

There has been broad support for India's position that there can be no justification for terrorism; terrorism is to be condemned in all its forms and manifestations; States that encourage, support or finance terrorism and provide safe havens and sanctuaries should be held accountable; and there is need for greater international cooperation, including by early conclusion of a Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism.

Insofar as India-China border areas are concerned, since there is no commonly delineated Line of Actual Control (LAC) between the two sides, from time to time, on account of differences in the perception of the LAC, situations have arisen on the ground that could have been avoided if we had a common perception of the LAC.

Government regularly takes up any transgression along the LAC with the Chinese side through established mechanisms including border personnel meetings, flag meeting, meetings of Working Mechanism for Consultation and Coordination on India-China Border Affairs, as well as through diplomatic channels.

Government consistently maintains that peace and tranquility in the India-China border areas is an important pre-requisite for the smooth development of bilateral relations.

#### **Opposition of permanent Chinese base in IOR**

350. SHRIMATI SHANTA CHHETRI:

SHRI SANJAY RAUT:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the quadrilateral group, comprising Australia, India, Japan and the United States of America has urged their partner countries to oppose the establishment of permanent Chinese bases in strategically important Indian Ocean Region (IOR);

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what strategic steps India along with Australia, Japan and USA is taking to oppose establishment of permanent Chinese military bases in IOR?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS [GENERAL (RETD.) V. K. SINGH]: (a) to (c) Government engages with various countries through bilateral, multilateral and plurilateral platforms on issues that advance our interests and promote our viewpoint. India has undertaken consultations with Australia, Japan and the United States on regional and global issues of common interest. These discussions focus on cooperation in areas such as connectivity,