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Rajya Sabha Q&A on the India's Objectives Regarding the Nuclear Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons

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Summary:

Transcript of questions and answers between members of the Rajya Sabha and the Minister of External Affairs, Shri M. C. Chagla, on the government's goals for the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty.

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to bring up. It is also our intention that the meeting between our officials should be on a quiet, continuing and confidential basis and we sincerely wish that both sides should try to reach agreement on various matters.

Accept Excellency the assurances of my highest consideration.

M. C. CHAGLA

His Excellency Mr. Sharifuddin Pirzada, Sitara-e-Pakistan, Foreign Minister of Pakistan, Islamabad.

TREATY ON NON-PROLIFERATION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS

*173. SHRI RAM CHANDER:
SHRI CHITTA BASU:
SHRI K. SUNDARAM:
SHRI A. P. CHATTERJEE:
SHRI M. N. KAUL:
SHRI HARISH CHANDRA
MATHUR:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) what is the Government's stand with respect to the proposed treaty on non-proliferation of nuclear weapons; and
- (b) what is the reaction of the big powers thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI M. C. CHAGLA):
(a) The Government of India considers that the treaty on non-proliferation of nuclear weapons should conform to the principles set out in U.N. General Assembly Resolution 2028(XX), viz.,

 The treaty should be void of any loop-holes which might permit nuclear or non-nuclear Powers to proliferate, directly or indirectly, nuclear weapons in any form;

- (ii) The treaty should embody an acceptable balance of mutual responsibilities and obligations of the nuclear and non-nuclear Powers;
- (iii) The Treaty should be a step towards the achievement of general and complete disarmament and, more particularly, nuclear disarmament;
- (iv) There should be acceptable and workable provisions to ensure the effectiveness of the treaty;
- (v) Nothing in the treaty should adversely effect the right of any group of States to conclude regional treaties in order to ensure the total absence of nuclear weapons in their respective territories.

It also considers that the treaty should be comprehensive and non-discriminatory, and that it should not impede the development of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes.

(b) The USA and the USSR have been consulting each other to produce a draft treaty but have not yet reached agreement on a mutually acceptable draft.

RECOMMENDATIONS OF SMALL NEWS-PAPER ENQURY COMMITTEE

*174. SHRI JAGAT NARAIN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state the steps taken by Government to implement the recommendations of the Small Newspapers Enquiry Committee?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIK. K. SHAH): The Enquiry Committee on Small Newspapers have made 145 recommendations in their Report. Decisions taken in respect of 111 of those recommendations and details thereof are laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix No. LX, Annexure No. 10] The remaining 34 recommedations are being processing.