

arrangement of the special flights of Air India to Cairo. As mentioned by Air India and Ministry of Civil Aviation, the fare charged was only to cover the direct cost of operating the flight on a 'no profit' basis.

Solution to outstanding issues with Bangladesh

816. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India and Bangladesh are trying to resolve several outstanding issues before our PM visits Dhaka;
- (b) if so, the details worked out so far; and
- (c) the progress achieved so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED):
(a) to (c) India and Bangladesh are working closely to strengthen cooperation in a range of issues. They are also in the process of implementing several important decisions taken at various high level meetings. All outstanding issues between the two sides are being addressed expeditiously. Considerable progress has been achieved in many areas including power cooperation, water sharing and related issues and connectivity. India facilitated electrification of Dahagram and Angarpota. The US \$1 billion Line of Credit Agreement was signed in the presence of Finance Ministers of both the countries. Other areas of progress include signing of an MoU on Border Haat, India allowing the Nepalese trucks to enter 200 meters inside the Bangladesh border, designating Ashuganj in Bangladesh and Silghat in India as Ports of Call, holding of the meeting of the Joint Boundary Working Group in November, 2010 and the Joint Rivers Commission in March, 2010.

Deportation of students from Andhra Pradesh

817. SHRI Y.S. CHOWDARY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that hundreds of Indian students mostly from Andhra Pradesh are facing the prospect of deportation from USA after a California based University was shut down by authorities on charge of alleged immigration;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether all the students obtained visa through regular channel;
- (d) the reasons for allegation against these students of illegal migration; and
- (e) the action contemplated by Government to protect the interests of our genuine students from the fraud committed by the University?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED):
(a) and (b) Closure of Tri-Valley University in California on 19 January, 2011 for alleged fraudulent practices has created an uncertain academic future for approximately 1500 Indian students enrolled at the University, a majority of whom were from Andhra Pradesh.

(c) All students were on valid student visas and authorization.

(d) The students have not been charged for illegal immigration, but for possible violation of visa conditions, including those related to class attendance, residence and work.

(e) Government's primary concern is the welfare of the affected Indian students and to ensure that their academic career is not jeopardized. The Government has repeatedly conveyed to the US Government that the students, who are themselves victims of the fraud, should be given adequate time and opportunity to transfer to other universities, adjust their status or, if they desire, return to India honourably.

Government has been providing assistance to students, including through direct meeting with students, organization of free legal aid camps, and issuing appropriate guidance and advisories.

China's presence around the country

818. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of Beijing's threat to northern India as China is surrounding us from all around by strengthening its position whether it is Myanmar, Bangladesh, Nepal, Indian Ocean side or Pakistan occupied Kashmir;

(b) if so, whether any discussion on border areas took place between the Prime Minister of India with his Chinese counterpart during his visit to Delhi in December, 2010;

(c) if so, the details of discussions/outcome thereof; and

(d) the steps Government is taking to counter China's expected threat to North Indian States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED):
(a) to (d) Government is aware of China's enhanced economic and technological capabilities in execution of infrastructure projects in developing countries. During the visit of the Chinese Premier to India in December, 2010, the two Prime Ministers expressed satisfaction on the Special Representative Talks on the Boundary Question and reaffirmed the need to maintain peace and tranquility on the border pending a resolution of the Boundary Question. Government keeps a constant watch on all developments having a bearing on India's security and takes all necessary measures to safeguard it.