

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:192
ANSWERED ON:22.11.2006
PROLIFERATION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS
Rao Shri Sambasiva Rayapati

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has conducted any studies regarding proliferation of nuclear weapons flowing into or emanating from its neighbourhood;
- (b) if so, the findings thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE)

- (a) Government carefully monitors nuclear proliferation in India's neighbourhood.
- (b) Recent revelations about onward proliferation activities indicate that much of the proliferation activity has either originated or tended to collect in our neighbourhood.
- (c) Government has consistently highlighted in relevant fora the adverse effect on our security environment of such proliferation flows. Government remains committed to taking all necessary steps in the interest of national security based on a realistic assessment of the security situation.