

105TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. RES. 439

Concerning India's recent detonation of 5 nuclear devices.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 14, 1998

Mr. UNDERWOOD submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on International Relations

RESOLUTION

Concerning India's recent detonation of 5 nuclear devices.

Whereas the Hindu Nationalist (BJP) Government led by Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee is just 7 weeks old;

Whereas India announced, and it was confirmed by seismic detection devices, that India detonated 3 nuclear devices on Monday May 11, 1998, at the Pokaran test site in North Western India and detonated 2 devices on Wednesday, May 13, 1998, in the Thar desert in North Western India;

Whereas India claims that 1 of the devices was a thermo-nuclear device, otherwise known as a hydrogen bomb;

Whereas this is the second time India has performed nuclear testing;

Whereas the first ever test conducted in India occurred on May 15, 1974;

Whereas India claims that this recent test was much more powerful than its first 2 decades ago;

Whereas the Government of India has not renounced any further testing of nuclear devices, despite world-wide condemnation of her actions;

Whereas the provocative nature of this test may create a regional arms race between India and Pakistan;

Whereas nuclear testing is not conducive to the establishment of peace and stability in South Asia;

Whereas nuclear tests are in direct defiance of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty endorsed in 1996 by no less than 149 nations;

Whereas, despite the fact that India is not a signatory of the treaty, India's tests run counter to an international effort to promulgate a comprehensive ban on nuclear weapons testing;

Whereas, ironically, India's founding Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru first proposed the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty;

Whereas the recent nuclear tests make India's development of missile technology all the more ominous; and

Whereas missile systems such as India's Agni and Prithvi have ranges in excess of 1,400 miles, capable of reaching 15 nations: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2 (1) despite the long history of friendship between the United States and India, is deeply troubled by India's recent reckless behavior and its un-

1 willingness to sign on to the Comprehensive Test
2 Ban Treaty and the Non-Proliferation Treaty;

3 (2) strongly urges Pakistan to exercise restraint
4 and resist the temptation to prepare for nuclear
5 weapons testing of its own for the sake of greater
6 peace and stability in South Asia; and

7 (3) supports the economic sanctions imposed on
8 India by the President under the authority of the
9 Nuclear Proliferation Prevention Act of 1994.

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