

Viewing cable 10NEWDELHI355, NSA MENON DISCUSSES REGIONAL SECURITY AND TRADE

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 FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
 TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9601
 INFO RUCNCLS/ALL SOUTH AND CENTRAL ASIA COLLECTIVE
 RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING 8264
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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 04 NEW DELHI 000355

SIPDIS

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TAGS PGOV, PREL, PTER, PARM, KNNP, ENRG, IR, PK, IN

SUBJECT: NSA MENON DISCUSSES REGIONAL SECURITY AND TRADE

ISSUES WITH CODEL MCCASKILL

Classified By: Ambassador Tim Roemer for Reasons 1.4 (B) and (D).

¶1. (C) SUMMARY. In a meeting with CODEL McCaskill February 17, National Security Advisor Shivshankar Menon touched on regional security issues including Pakistan, Afghanistan, and Iran. Menon Touts "Full-spectrum" Relationship, Discusses Pune Bombing

¶2. (C) In a wide-ranging meeting with CODEL McCaskill February 17, National Security Advisor Shivshankar Menon touched on several regional security and trade-related issues. Whereas the
 ¶3. (C) Menon welcomed the condolences offered by Senator Claire McCaskill (D-MO) for the February 13 bombing in Pune that killed 10 and injured dozens. The bombing was "a shock, yet no
 "Many Pakistans"

¶4. (C) Menon recounted that India had entered into the Composite Dialogue with Pakistan on the basis of former Pakistani President Pervez Musharraf's assurance that India would not be targ
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"26/11." Menon lamented that Pakistan had shown itself to be "unable or unwilling to wean itself off from terror as an instrument of state policy." He alluded to evidence that serving Pakistani off

¶5. (C) Menon shared his perspective that "We are dealing with many Pakistans, so we need to run many Pakistan policies at the same time." He stressed that even after the Mumbai attacks I

¶6. (C) Terrorism would be "the primary issue" in the planned February 25 Foreign Secretary-level talks, but Menon allowed that after the first talks "it will be up to the Pakistanis how they respo
 Afghanistan: Menon a "Minority of One"

¶7. (C) Turning to Pakistan's role in Afghanistan, Menon cautioned that if the Pakistani establishment felt U.S. commitment was flagging in Afghanistan it would "sit it out and use the Indian thr
 ¶8. (C) McCaskill agreed we had a chance to succeed because we had adjusted our strategy. McCaskill was confident the United States would continue to sustain the 300,000 strong Afghan N
 Iran: A Choice Among "Unsatisfactory Strategies"

¶9. (C) Menon agreed with Senator Jeff Merkley's (D-OR) assertion that a nuclear Iran would be bad for everyone. Merkley had supported the Obama Administration's efforts to seek dialogue w
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"hopping mad" over India's IAEA votes and Iranian Foreign Minister Moutakki "blew up" at former National Security Advisor M.K. Narayanan during his last visit to Delhi. "It goes without saying,"

¶10. (C) India had a more complex relationship with Iran and was convinced that it could work with Iran on some issues. For instance, Menon asserted that Iran was more worried about the Tali
 Trade Issues: Fighters, Export Controls, Civ Nuke, GM Foods

¶11. (C) Menon said he appreciated all that the India and the United States had been able to accomplish together, and said we needed to do more on defense cooperation. McCaskill remarked :

¶12. (C) "In order to kick the relationship into a different gear," according to Menon, we needed "to be seen to be sharing technology." We both have complex legal and regulatory structures, son

¶13. (C) Merkley praised Menon's role in helping to conclude the Civil Nuclear Cooperation Agreement, and inquired about progress on implementation. Menon mentioned planned Reprocessing

¶14. (C) McCaskill noted that if there is one issue with regard to India that makes Americans "cranky" it is that India was stealing our manufacturing base. Pointing out that Monsanto was also I

¶15. (C) Codel McCaskill did not have the opportunity to clear this cable.

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ROEMER