



Seventeenth session

INDIA: REQUEST FOR THE INCLUSION OF AN ITEM IN THE
PROVISIONAL AGENDA OF THE SEVENTEENTH SESSION

URGENT NEED FOR SUSPENSION OF NUCLEAR AND THERMO-NUCLEAR TESTS

Letter dated 29 June 1962 from the Permanent Representative of India
to the United Nations, addressed to the Secretary-General

In continuation of my letter dated 25 June 1962 proposing that the item "Urgent need for suspension of nuclear and thermo-nuclear tests" be included in the provisional agenda of the seventeenth session of the General Assembly, I have the honour to enclose an explanatory memorandum in accordance with rule 20 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly.

(Signed) C.S. JHA
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
Permanent Representative of India to the United Nations

Explanatory memorandum on "Urgent need for suspension of nuclear
and thermo-nuclear tests"

1. The General Assembly during its sixteenth session adopted resolution 1648 (XVI) on 6 November 1961, earnestly urging the States concerned to refrain from further test explosions pending the conclusion of necessary internationally binding agreements in regard to tests. Unfortunately, notwithstanding this and earlier resolutions of the General Assembly, there has been no cessation of such tests nor have agreements been reached as a result of discussions concerning suspension of nuclear tests. Nuclear Powers continue to engage in testing, which is causing grave concern not only because of the radiation hazards to which the present and future generations are being subjected but also because it is leading to an intensification of the arms race itself. The succession of nuclear testing by great Powers with the avowed intention of technological perfection of weapons of mass destruction has an aggravating effect on the international situation. If such tests continue, it can only lead to the gravest consequences, putting the existence of mankind itself in jeopardy.

2. The Government of India remain convinced that it is more imperative than ever that all nuclear and thermo-nuclear tests should cease forthwith and remain suspended pending urgent conclusion of necessary agreements in this regard.

3. The Government of India consider that this matter be discussed again and therefore submit for inclusion for consideration by the General Assembly at its seventeenth session an item entitled "Urgent need for suspension of nuclear and thermo-nuclear tests".
