

time, make it clear that there's a way forward for other nations to participate in a—in civilian nuclear power in such a way as to address nonproliferation concerns.

India has charted a way forward. You heard the Prime Minister talk about going to the IAEA. That group exists to help safeguard the world from proliferation.

Listen, I proposed reprocessing agreements—that stands in stark contrast to current nuclear theology that we shouldn't reprocess for proliferation concerns. I don't see how you can advocate nuclear power, in order to take the pressure off of our own economy, for example, without advocating technological development of reprocessing, because reprocessing will not only—reprocessing is going to help with the environmental concerns with nuclear power. It will make there—to put it bluntly, there will be less material to dispose.

And so I'm trying to think differently, not to stay stuck in the past, and recognize that by thinking differently, particularly on nuclear power, we can achieve some important objectives, one of which is less reliance on fossil fuels; second is to work with our partners to help both our economies grow; and thirdly is to be strong on dealing with the proliferation issues.

Well, Mr. Prime Minister, it's been a joy.

Prime Minister Singh. Thank you very much, Mr. President. We have made history today, and I thank you.

President Bush. Thank you, sir. Thank you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 12:26 p.m. in the Mughal Garden at the Hyderabad House. In his remarks, he referred to Aung San Su Kyi, leader of the National League for Democracy of Burma; King Gyanendra of Nepal; President Pervez Musharraf of Pakistan; and David Foy, a U.S. State Department official who was killed in a terrorist attack in Karachi, Pakistan, on March 2.

Remarks at a Luncheon Hosted by Prime Minister Manmohan Singh of India in New Delhi

March 2, 2006

Mr. Prime Minister and Mrs. Kaur, thank you for your hospitality. Mr. Prime Minister,

I'm sorry you brought up the Taj Mahal. I've been hearing about it from Laura ever since I told her that we weren't going. But we pledged if you invite us back to come back, we'd love to see the magnificent part of your country that we will be unable to see this trip.

This is an historic trip. It's a chance to continue to build on the progress we made in Washington, DC, progress being a relationship that is—that lasts beyond our time in office. It's a relationship that is based upon our common values, that every person matters, every person belongs, and everybody should be able to worship as freely as they want to, the common values of recognizing the right to people to express themselves in a peaceful way.

Our relationship is one that's important for peace and prosperity in this world. It's important that we continue to work together to battle the terrorists, to give them no quarter, and to never yield. Terrorism has no place in democracy and terrorism must be defeated for our children and grandchildren to be able to live in a peaceful world.

Our relationship is one based upon our belief that free and fair trade is in the interests of our people; that when trade moves freely and fairly, that people in our respective countries will be able to find good work and good jobs and improve their standard of living. I believe India has got a really important role to play in showing parts of the world what is possible when it comes to having people live side by side in peace. India is such a wonderful example of pluralism, of religious freedom, of human rights. This relationship of ours is a vital relationship; it's a strategic partnership.

And so Mr. Prime Minister, thank you very much for our dialogs and our work together. Thank you for your hospitality. I want to thank the leaders who are here with us today for taking time out of your busy schedules to welcome Laura and me and our delegation.

And so I, too, would like to propose a toast, a toast to the Prime Minister, his wife, and to the people of India.

NOTE: The President spoke at 1:39 p.m. in the Taj Palace. In his remarks, he referred to Kaur Gursharan, wife of Prime Minister Singh. The

transcript released by the Office of the Press Secretary also included the remarks of Prime Minister Singh. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

Remarks Following a Meeting With Religious Leaders in New Delhi

March 2, 2006

The President. We have just had a—very important discussion about the role of religion, not only in India but the role that religion can play in helping the world become a more peaceful place. I want to thank the leaders here around the table. Leaders from different faiths have joined us to share with—their thoughts with me.

You know, one of the things that struck me during the conversation is, in India, is—it's a country that recognizes the importance of religion and welcomes interfaith dialog, understands the importance of faith and understands the importance of people of faith discussing thoughts and views that are—that are deep in their hearts.

And we've had a—just a—you know, India is an amazing country. Just look around the table, and you'll see different religions represented. But everybody around the table also was so proud to be in India. In other words, their nationalism was equally important then, as their religion.

We thank the—

Acharya Srivatsa Goswami. —here to the world.

The President. Well, that's right. That's right. Thank you. Anyway, I just appreciate you all coming. Thank you for your kind words, and like you, I hope for peace, and like you, I'm proud to be here in India. It's a fantastic country.

Thank you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 4:23 p.m. at the Maurya Sheraton and Towers. Participating in the meeting was Acharya Srivatsa Goswami, head of the Sri Caitanya Prema Samsthana. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

Joint Statement Between the United States of America and India

March 2, 2006

President George W. Bush and Prime Minister Manmohan Singh today expressed satisfaction with the great progress the United States and India have made in advancing our strategic partnership to meet the global challenges of the 21st century. Both our countries are linked by a deep commitment to freedom and democracy; a celebration of national diversity, human creativity and innovation; a quest to expand prosperity and economic opportunity worldwide; and a desire to increase mutual security against the common threats posed by intolerance, terrorism, and the spread of weapons of mass destruction. The successful transformation of the U.S.-India relationship will have a decisive and positive influence on the future international system as it evolves in this new century.

Reviewing the progress made in deepening the global partnership between the United States and India since their Joint Statement of July 18, 2005, the President and the Prime Minister reaffirm their commitment to expand even further the growing ties between their two countries. Consistent with this objective, the two leaders wish to highlight efforts the United States and India are making together in the following areas, where they have:

For Economic Prosperity and Trade

(1) Agreed to intensify efforts to develop a bilateral business climate supportive of trade and investment by:

1. Welcoming the report of the U.S.-India CEO Forum, agreeing to consider its recommendations aimed at substantially broadening our bilateral economic relations, and directing the Chairs of the Indo-U.S. Economic Dialogue to follow up expeditiously with the CEO Forum;
2. Endorsing the efforts of the U.S.-India Trade Policy Forum to reduce barriers to trade and investment with the goal of doubling bilateral trade in three years;