

UNSC resolution addresses 'key concerns' on Afghanistan: India

P5 members divided; Delhi plays 'active role' to ensure resolution went through

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Despite the abstention of two "P5" countries – Russia and China – from the India-led United Nations Security Council (UNSC) Resolution 2593, the Government of India said it was a "matter of satisfaction" that the resolution addressed India's "key concerns" on Afghanistan.

P5 refers to the five permanent members of the UNSC – China, France, Russia, the U.K. and the U.S.

According to official sources, the resolution, which called on the Taliban to keep their commitments on preventing terror groups in Afghanistan and urged them to assist the safe evacuations of all Afghan nationals wishing to leave the country, was the result of a careful coordination and "high-level" official contacts with UNSC members, including a call to U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken. The efforts were overseen by a special new group led by External Affairs Minister S.



Show of strength: Members of the Taliban Badri 313 military unit taking position at the airport in Kabul. ■ AFP

Jaishankar and National Security Adviser Ajit Doval.

"The resolution demands that Afghan territory should not be used to threaten or attack any country or to shelter and train terrorists and plan or finance terrorist attacks. It mentions individuals designated by Resolution 1267, (which includes the Lashkar-e-Taiba and the Jaish-e-Mohammad)," said the sources, explaining why India played an "active role" in ensuring that the resolution went through on Monday, a day before it demitted presidency of the UNSC.

Explaining the split within

the P5, Russia and China said they wanted all the groups, especially the Islamic State and the Uighur East Turkistan Islamic Movement to be named specifically in the document, and listed a number of objections to the drafting of the resolution. They accused the U.S., the U.K. and France, the sponsors of the resolution, of having rushed it through on a "tight schedule" while seeking to absolve the U.S. of responsibility, and distinguishing between "their and our terrorists".

CONTINUED ON ▶ PAGE 8