**06NEWDELHI4466**

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VZCZCXRO0453 OO RUEHBI RUEHCI RUEHLH RUEHPW DE RUEHNE #4466 1771156 ZNY CCCCC ZZH O 261156Z JUN 06 FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5698 INFO RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING 2655 RUEHLM/AMEMBASSY COLOMBO 5972 RUEHKA/AMEMBASSY DHAKA 5981 RUEHIL/AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD 9000 RUEHBUL/AMEMBASSY KABUL 3048 RUEHKT/AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU 6659 RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON 0428 RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW 8985 RUEHKO/AMEMBASSY TOKYO 3503 RUEHCI/AMCONSUL CALCUTTA 4877 RUEHCG/AMCONSUL CHENNAI 4836 RUEHKP/AMCONSUL KARACHI 4468 RUEHLH/AMCONSUL LAHORE 2771 RUEHBI/AMCONSUL MUMBAI 4077 RUEHPW/AMCONSUL PESHAWAR 3422 RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC RUEIDN/DNI WASHINGTON DC RHHMUNA/CDR USPACOM HONOLULU HI RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 1333 RHMFISS/HQ USCENTCOM MACDILL AFB FL RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA 3628 RHHMUNA/HQ USPACOM HONOLULU HI RHMFISS/HQ USSOCOM MACDILL AFB FL RUEKJCS/JOINT STAFF WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L NEW DELHI 004466 SIPDIS SIPDIS E.O. 12958: DECL: 05/25/2016 TAGS: PREF PHUM PREL IN BT NP SUBJECT: MEA WILL NOT ATTEND BHUTANESE REFUGEE MEETING REF: STATE 100743 Classified By: A/PolCouns Atul Keshap for Reasons 1.4 (B, D) [Â¶](http://www.bhutan-research.org/us-diplomatic-cables-on-bhutan/06newdelhi4466#par1) 1. (C) The GOI will not attend the proposed July 14 meeting in New York of the truncated Core Group on Bhutanese Refugees (Reftel), MEA Director (North) Vikas Swarup told PolOff on June 26. Swarup stated that the GOI would be interested in receiving a read-out of the meeting, but that due to "sensitivities" it would continue privately to press the GON and RGOB to solve the issue. He acknowledged that the MEA has held discussions about applying more overt pressure on the two governments, but has so far decided to maintain its current policy of acting "behind the scenes." [Â¶](http://www.bhutan-research.org/us-diplomatic-cables-on-bhutan/06newdelhi4466#par2) 2. (C) Noting a June 26 press report out of Nepal that quoted Nepalese Foreign Minister Oli as stating that the GON wants to begin a "direct and fresh initiative" with Bhutan, Swarup remarked that the Joint Verification Team (JVT) process may not lead to a solution. He highlighted Oli's statement that Nepal may give up "all futile efforts made by the 15th round of negotiations" and suggestion that a new classification system of just two categories, either Bhutanese or non-Bhutanese, as evidence that the JVT could be "on it's last legs." [Â¶](http://www.bhutan-research.org/us-diplomatic-cables-on-bhutan/06newdelhi4466#par3) 3. (C) Swarup concluded that the GOI has a national interest in resolving the issue expeditiously because "the radicalization of camp members" is a concern. He noted that he would discuss the issue and reftel demarche with the appropriate MEA personnel and looked forward to our impressions of the July 14 meeting. MULFORD