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**Tensions mount between nuclear foes**

*By Y.P. Rajesh*

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NEW DELHI (Reuters) - India is recalling its envoy to Pakistan for what it termed Islamabad's failure to act against terrorism but Pakistan has said it will not retaliate even as tension between the nuclear foes mounted.

Islamabad said it was deeply concerned about reports of Indian troop movements along its borders which it said would aggravate a tense situation and oblige Pakistan to take appropriate countermeasures.

An Indian army spokesman said, however, New Delhi was only being cautious after what he said was "massive troop movement" across the border in disputed Kashmir by Pakistan.

Earlier, announcing the toughest Indian response so far to last week's attack on the New Delhi parliament, foreign ministry spokeswoman Nirupama Rao told reporters India would also stop bus and train services between the two countries from January 1.

New Delhi had demanded Islamabad shut two Pakistan-based guerrilla groups it blamed for last week's attack on the Indian parliament in which 14 people died, including the five assailants who India says were Pakistani.

"Since the December 13 attack on parliament, we have seen no attempt on the part of Pakistan to take action against the organisations involved," Rao said.

**DIPLOMATIC PRESSURE**

She said India's top official in the Foreign Ministry Chokila Iyer had summoned Pakistan's envoy in New Delhi and listed India's demands a day after five armed intruders stormed the parliament complex before being killed in a gunbattle.

"In view of the complete lack of concern on the part of Pakistan and its continued promotion of cross border terrorism, the government of India has decided to recall its High Commissioner (ambassador) in Islamabad," she said.

Analysts said Friday's move did not come as a surprise as New Delhi had said it would use diplomacy to pressurise Pakistan before considering "other options".

"They are looking for action from Pakistan...and if it does not come the next step could be shutting down the High Commission in Islamabad," C. Raja Mohan, strategic affairs editor at the Hindu newspaper, told Reuters.

Pakistan has condemned the attack, denied any involvement and has called for a joint investigation. But New Delhi rejected a joint inquiry, saying its evidence against the two groups -- the Jaish-e-Mohammed and the Lashkar-e-Taiba -- was conclusive.

Rao said the limited train and bus services between the two countries, used by thousands of Indians and Pakistanis who cannot afford to fly, would not be stopped immediately to give people time to return home.

**MOUNTING TENSION**

She said the Pakistani deputy High Commissioner in India was told on Friday New Delhi was ready to hand over the bodies of the five parliament attackers to their families.

Tensions between the neighbours, who have fought three wars since their independence in 1947, have mounted since the December 13 attack on the seat of the world's largest democracy.

India also accuses Pakistan of backing a militant plan to assassinate the country's entire political leadership.

Both countries have deployed extra troops on their border and exchanged mortar and heavy machinegun fire across a ceasefire line dividing Kashmir. But the governments of both India and Pakistan have said they see no danger of war.

Jaish-e-Mohammed and the Lashkar-e-Taiba are among a dozen groups fighting for independence for Kashmir, India's only Muslim-majority state, or for its merger into Pakistan.

The groups have denied involvement in the attack and instead accused Indian intelligence agencies of masterminding the incident to discredit them.

Earlier on Friday, Indian Foreign Minister Jaswant Singh said New Delhi was happy U.S. President George W. Bush had on Thursday blocked the assets of the Lashkar-e-Taiba.

Spokeswoman Rao said the U.S. action would be meaningful only if Islamabad also froze the assets of the two groups, arrested their leaders and stopped their activities in Pakistan.

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