

China blocks U.N. move on Azhar

China on Thursday blocked another bid by the U.S., France and the U.K. to list Pakistan-based JeM chief and Pathankot terror attack mastermind Masood Azhar as a global terrorist by the U.N., saying it had rejected the move as “there is no consensus”.

A veto-wielding member of the Security Council, China had repeatedly blocked India’s move to put a ban on the Jaish-e-Mohammed (JeM) chief under the Al-Qaeda Sanctions Committee of the Council.

The JeM, founded by Azhar, has already been in the U.N.’s list of banned terror outfits.

China had in August extended by three months its technical hold on the proposal after having blocked the move in February at the U.N. “China has rejected the move as there is no consensus,” sources in the Chinese Foreign Ministry told PTI here.

The comment came as the China’s technical hold was set to lapse on Thursday. The official’s comment indicates that China would veto the application in the 1267 Committee of the UN Security Council that would subject him to an assets freeze and travel ban to allow it to lapse.

This is the second year in succession that it has blocked the resolution.

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