

Pak. duplicity key hurdle in fight against terror: Sushma

Minister tears into Pakistan in her UN General Assembly address

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Pakistan's duplicity is a key obstacle in the global fight against terrorism and India is an immediate and continuing target of terrorism originating from there, External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj told the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) on Saturday.

Osama's safe haven

"The most startling evidence of this duplicity was the fact that Osama Bin Laden, the architect and ideologue of 9/11, was given safe haven in Pakistan...that claimed to be America's friend and ally," Ms. Swaraj said in searing speech, trying to put Islamabad in the dock for the ten-



Sushma Swaraj addressing the UN General Assembly on Saturday. ■AFP

sions in the region.

"The killers of 9/11 met their fate; but the mastermind of 26/11 Hafiz Saeed still roams the streets of Pakistan with impunity," the Minister said, comparing the 9/11 terrorist attacks in the United States with the 2008 November terrorist attack on

Mumbai. India is always willing to talk to Pakistan, but continuing terrorist attacks have made peace process impossible, she said.

For global framework

Though the international community has become increasingly aware of Pakis-

tan's role in promoting terrorism, the absence of an international agreement on the definition of terrorism allows Pakistan to characterise terrorists as "freedom fighters," Ms. Swaraj said.