

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1206
ANSWERED ON:30.11.2005
INDO-US TREATY ON MUTUAL LEGAL ASSISTANCE
Rao Shri Sambasiva Rayapati

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) Whether Indo-US treaty on mutual legal assistance in criminal matters came into force with both the countries formally signing the instruments of ratification on October 4, 2005;
- (b) if so, the details in this regard; and
- (c) the details of benefits of signing the said treaty?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (RAO INDERJIT SINGH)

- (a) Protocol of the Exchange of the Instruments of Ratification was signed at New Delhi on October 3, 2005. The MLAT between the two countries came into force from the said date.
- (b)&(c) The Treaty will improve the effectiveness of the law enforcement authorities of both India and USA in the investigation, prosecution, prevention and suppression of crime, including those relating to terrorism, narcotic trafficking, economic and organized crime.