GOVERNMENT OF INDIA HOME AFFAIRS LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:204
ANSWERED ON:20.07.2004
TALKS WITH NEIGHBOURING COUNTRIES ON TERRORISM
Kurup Adv. Suresh;Rao Shri Sambasiva Rayapati

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has held any official level talks with the neighouring countries to prevent the terrorists and their activities against India from their territory;
- (b) if so, the facts in this regard;
- (c) the reaction of each of the countries in this regard;
- (d) the steps taken by them to check terrorism against India; and
- (e) the extent to which it has helped India in tackling terrorism?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIS. REGHUPATHY)

(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.204 FOR 20.7.2004 RAISED BY SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO AND SHRI SURESH KURUP REGARDING TALKS WITH NEIGHBOURING COUNTRIES ON TERRORISM

- (a): Yes, Sir.
- (b)&(c): Government has established an institutional mechanism with Bangladesh, Myanmar, Bhutan and Nepal for sharing of security related issues including cross border terrorism. Talks on Confidence Building Measures (CBMs) between India and Pakistan are continuing. India has also established a dialogue mechanism with China on counter terrorism. Regular meetings with various countries are held from time to time.
- (d): Most of our neighbouring countries during the meetings have assured that they will not allow any anti-India activities from their soil. Royal Bhutan Government had recently carried out operations against Indian Insurgent Groups (IIGs) based in Bhutan. In these operations, 30 camps of the IIGs were destroyed, besides a large number of insurgents were either captured or otherwise neutralised.
- (e): The institutional mechanism with the neighbouring country provides a forum for sharing information on cross border terrorism and expressing India's concerns, and has been found useful.