

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2895

ANSWERED ON:11.08.2010

AGREEMENT BETWEEN AMERICA AND INDIA

Singh Shri Rajiv Ranjan (Lalan);Vardhan Shri Harsh

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether recently, an agreement has been signed between India and the United States of America to prepare a joint mechanism to deal with terrorism;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the date of signing of agreement;
- (c) the role to be played by India and America under the said agreement;
- (d) whether the said agreement is likely to strengthen the Indian defence mechanism against possible terrorist attacks; and
- (e) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI S.M. KRISHNA)

(a) to (e): The Governments of India and the United States cooperate in the field of counter terrorism and related areas through the framework of the bilateral Joint Working Group on Counter Terrorism which was established in 2000 and has held eleven meetings so far. To further enhance their cooperation in counter terrorism, which is an important element of their bilateral strategic partnership, the two governments signed the US-India Counter Terrorism Cooperation Initiative on 23rd July 2010 in New Delhi. This Agreement was signed by the Union Home Secretary on behalf of the Government of India and US Ambassador to India on behalf of the United States. The Initiative lists various sectors of cooperation and reaffirms the intention of both governments to promote greater mutual understanding and cooperation to combat terrorism.