GOVERNMENT OF INDIA EXTERNAL AFFAIRS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:285 ANSWERED ON:10.11.2010 AGREEMENTS TO DEAL WITH TERRORISM Jaiswal Dr. Sanjay

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India has taken up the matter of terrorism with America and other countries in view of continuous terror attacks;
- (b) if so, the outcome thereof and the names of the countries with whom this matter has been taken up during the last three years; and
- (c) the countries with whom agreements have been signed or likely to be signed alongwith details of agreement?

Answer

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

(a) to (c) The matter of terrorism and international cooperation to counter it is consistently taken up by the Government of India at various levels, including the highest, with governments of friendly countries, including the United States of America. This is done both bilaterally and in multilateral fora.

In the last three years [2007-2009], bilateral meetings have been coordinated by Ministry of External Affairs with 18 countries/groupings. Bilaterally, Government of India cooperates in counter-terrorism through the mechanism of Counter-Terrorism Joint Working Groups (CT-JWGs). Ministry of External Affairs currently coordinates CT-JWGs with 25 countries and 2 regional groupings (list attached). Ministry of Home Affairs does the same with some of our immediate neighbours.

These meetings have proved very helpful in enabling exchange of views and experience regarding terror threats and groups, sharing of information, cooperation in training and capacity building, countering terror financing, sharing best practices, strengthening of multilateral efforts in countering terrorism and in facilitating agency to agency cooperation.