GOVERNMENT OF INDIA EXTERNAL AFFAIRS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:424 ANSWERED ON:10.11.2010 INDO US AGREEMENTS Naik Dr. Sanjeev Ganesh;Sule Supriya

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India and US have signed a number of agreements between the two countries;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether US has given greater importance to India during dialogue and has decided to focus on a range of less exigent issues;
- (d) if so, the extent to which all strategic issues were discussed;
- (e) whether there has been discussions on how to control activities of extremists and the cooperation US has agreed to provide to India in this regard;
- (f) if so, the details thereof;
- (g) whether India has also urged US to check and control Pakistan's anti-India activities; and
- (h) if so, the details thereof and the extent to which USA has agreed to cooperate on these issues?

Answer

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

- (a) & (b) India and the United States have, in 2010, signed India-USA Counter-terrorism Initiative, India-US Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation in Agriculture and Food Security, and Framework for Cooperation in Trade and Investment.
- (c) & (d) During the visit of Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh to the United States in November 2009, Prime Minister and US President Barack Obama reaffirmed the India-US global strategic partnership. In addition External Affairs Minister Shri S.M. Krishna and US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton launched the first ministerial level India-US Strategic Dialogue in June 2010. Within that framework, the two countries pursue strategic dialogue on all areas of bilateral cooperation, including (i) science, technology, health and innovation; (ii) strategic cooperation; (iii) energy and climate change; (iv) education and development; and(v) economic, trade and agriculture.
- (e) to (h) India consistently shares its concerns with the international community on terrorism emanating from Pakistan. India and the United States have established productive cooperation in the area of counter terrorism, including through the mechanism of the India-US Joint Working Group on Counter-terrorism established in 2000 and the Counter-terrorism Initiative signed in July 2010.

The United States has publicly stated that it has repeatedly asked Pakistan to dismantle the terrorist group including those of concerns to India. This is also specified in the Enhanced Partnership with Pakistan Act of 2009 of the United States. Further, the United States has stated it has repeatedly asked Pakistan to bring the perpetrators of Mumbai terrorist attack to justice.