

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1472

ANSWERED ON:30.11.2011

SECURITY COOPERATION WITH AFGHANISTAN

Majumdar Shri Prasanta Kumar;Muttamwar Shri Vilas Baburao;Tirkey Shri Manohar

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India and Afghanistan have entered into a strategic partnership agreement recently;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the salient features of the agreement;
- (c) whether the agreement covers security cooperation especially with regard to fighting the common problem of terrorism originated from Pakistani soil; and
- (d) if so, the strategy evolved in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS(SMT. PRANEET KAUR)

(a) & (b) India has signed a Strategic Partnership Agreement (SPA) with Afghanistan on October 4, 2011 in New Delhi. The Agreement aims to institutionalize relations between the two countries in many spheres, including political and security cooperation, trade and economic cooperation, capacity development and education, social, cultural, civil society and people-to-people relations.

(c) & (d) In the political and security cooperation section of the Agreement, India has agreed to assist, as mutually determined, in the training, equipping and capacity building programmes for Afghan National Security Forces. Security cooperation between the India and Afghanistan is intended to help enhance their respective and mutual efforts in the fight against international terrorism, organized crime, illegal trafficking in narcotics and money laundering.