GOVERNMENT OF INDIA EXTERNAL AFFAIRS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3488 ANSWERED ON:12.02.2014 INDO ISRAEL WORKING GROUP Singh Alias Pappu Singh Shri Uday

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a meeting of the Indo-Israel Working Group on counter terrorism was held in the recent past at New Delhi and if so, the details of the discussions held and the outcome thereof:
- (b) whether Israel has offered its services to fight terrorism and if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the manner in which the Government is going to utilize the services of the Israeli experts in countering terrorism?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI PRENEET KAUR)

- (a) Yes. The last meeting of the India-Israel Joint Working Group (JWG) on Counter Terrorism was held in New Delhi on 20 February 2013. During the JWG, both sides exchanged perceptions of threat emanating from terrorism and emphasized their determination to fight the menace. They also discussed elements of regional and global terrorist threats, respective national counter terrorism strategies, state sponsored terrorism and need to strengthen bilateral and international cooperation to counter this threat.
- (b)&(c) India and Israel agreed to enhance dialogue and co-operation in the area of counter terrorism and agreed to work towards finalization of agreements on Cooperation in Homeland and Public Security Issues, Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters and Protection of Classified Materials and Information.