

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4252

ANSWERED ON:16.12.2009

RELATIONS WITH BANGLADESH

Agarwal Shri Jai Prakash;Reddy Shri Magunta Srinivasulu

**Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:**

(a) whether Bangladesh now occupies a critical position on the Asian horizon, especially in the context of India, Pakistan and China and the economic strategic relations;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to improve our relations with Bangladesh in terms of getting their support particularly to check the terrorism?

**Answer**

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

(a) to (c) Government attaches high priority to its relations with Bangladesh. The Government of India continues to work with the Government of Bangladesh to further strengthen bilateral cooperation in a range of areas, including in trade and economic and security related matters. Issues relating to terrorism and presence of Indian Insurgent Groups have been regularly taken up with the Government of Bangladesh at the highest level and through institutional mechanisms existing between the two countries, including the Home Secretary level talks, Joint Working Groups, and Border Coordination Meetings at the level of Directors General of BSF and Bangladesh Rifles. The Bangladesh Government has assured that they do not allow the use of their territory for activities inimical to India.