

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**  
**MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**QUESTION NO 18.11.2010**  
**ANSWERED ON**  
**JOINT TASK FORCE TO COMBAT TERRORISM .**

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Shri Shadi Lal Batra

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

- (a) whether India and United States have decided to set-up a joint task force to combat international terrorism and crime;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any agreement has also been signed in this regard; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

(SMT. PRENEET KAUR)

(a) to (d) The Governments of India and the United States cooperate in the field of combating international terrorism and related threats through the framework of the bilateral Joint Working Group on Counter Terrorism, which was established in 2000 and has held eleven meetings so far. To further enhance their cooperation in this field, which is an important element of their bilateral strategic partnership, the two governments signed the US-India Counter Terrorism Cooperation Initiative on 23rd July 2010 in New Delhi. This Agreement was signed by the Union Home Secretary on behalf of the Government of India and US Ambassador to India on behalf of the United States. The Initiative lists various sectors of cooperation [megacity policing, cyber-security, forensic sciences, mass transit and rail security, counterfeit currency, port and border security, information sharing, etc] and reaffirms the intention of both governments to promote greater mutual understanding and cooperation to combat terrorism.