

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2096
TO BE ANSWERED ON 12.05.2016

MEETING BY JOINT GROUP OF COUNTRIES ON TERRORISM

2096. SHRI K.C. TYAGI:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of meetings held by the Joint Group of Countries on Terrorism during the year 2015-16;
- (b) the proposal/initiatives agreed to by this Group to counter cross border Terrorism; and
- (c) whether some more countries have joined this group in view of the growing menace of terrorism and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
[GEN. (DR) V. K. SINGH (RETD)]

- (a) Meetings of Joint Working Group on Counter Terrorism were held with 16 (sixteen) countries during the year 2015-16, including with the UN P-5 nations. At the multilateral level also, meetings were held with the EU in Brussels (20-21 May, 2015) and with the BIMSTEC in Bangkok (4-5 August, 2015). India also participated in the Global Counter Terrorism Forum (GCTF) Plenary Meeting in September, 2015 and also in April, 2016, and in the GCTF Ministerial meeting in September, 2015.
- (b) During the deliberations at the Joint Working Group on Counter Terrorism, India's concerns and priorities regarding cross border terrorism were reiterated. The risks posed by terrorist entities in the Afghanistan-Pakistan region to the entire world because of their nexus with other terrorist groups and entities were also highlighted.
- (c) In view of the spread of the scourge of terrorism to various countries all over the world, there has been a growing interest by many countries in stepping up cooperation with India in this sector. Accordingly, meetings of the Joint Working Group on Counter Terrorism were held for the first time with Netherlands and Tanzania during the period 2015-16.
