

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**

**LOK SABHA  
STARRED QUESTION NO.70  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20.12.2017**

**SCO REGIONAL ANTI-TERRORIST STRUCTURE**

**\*70. SHRI RAM MOHAN NAIDU KINJARAPU:**

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

- (a) whether the Government is considering to use forum of Shanghai Cooperation Organisation's (SCO) Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure (RATS) in order to fight the threat of terrorism in the country and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether any joint operation to the effect has been undertaken/proposed to be undertaken and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any mechanism exists within the SCO countries to share information on countering terrorism and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the further steps taken by the Government in this regard?

**ANSWER  
THE MINISTER FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
(SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ)**

- (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the table of the House.

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**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 70 REGARDING “SHANGHAI COOPERATION ORGANISATION REGIONAL ANTI-TERRORIST STRUCTURE” FOR ANSWER ON 20.12.2017**

Madam, India became a member of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation on 09 June 2017 with the support of all the SCO Member States. SCO comprises of two regional bodies – SCO Secretariat and SCO-RATS (Regional Anti-Terrorism Structure).

SCO-RATS is a permanent body of the SCO and is intended to facilitate coordination and interaction between competent authorities of the SCO Member States in the fight against terrorism, extremism and separatism. The main functions of SCO-RATS are coordination and information sharing. Since becoming a member India has been participating in the activities of SCO-RATS.

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