

India to back Syria in fight against IS

The Grand Mufti of the Syrian Republic, Ahmad Badr Eddine Mohammad Abid Hassoun, with Rajnath Singh.PTIPTI

India on Wednesday assured its support to Syria in the fight against terrorism in the war-ravaged country, a major theatre of dreaded terror group Islamic State (IS).

This was conveyed when visiting grand mufti of Syrian Republic Ahmad Badr Eddine Mohammad Abid Hassoun met Home Minister Rajnath Singh here.

Long-standing ties

Mr. Singh assured the grand mufti of India's support in eliminating terrorism on all fronts and recollected the long-standing friendship between India and Syria, an official statement said.

Official sources said the issue of several Indians joining the IS and fighting for the terror group in Syria and Iraq was understood to have figured in the discussion.

The Home Minister welcomed the grand mufti and discussion was held on wide-ranging issues including terrorism and security, the statement said.

The Home Minister was confident that bilateral relations would improve further by such visits and wished that peace and stability were restored in Syria soon. The grand mufti thanked the Home Minister and appreciated the secular credentials of India. The grand mufti was pleased to note the significance of unity in diversity in India, the statement said.

Talks on terrorism

During the meeting, the grand mufti highlighted the evils of terrorism by citing the example of the killing of his son by terrorists and how he forgave the assassin.

He expressed confidence that India would extend support in the fight against terrorism.

The Home Minister thanked the delegation for its visit to India.

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