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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO: 1402

ANSWERED ON: 10.12.2003

INDIAN AID TO AFGHANISTAN

PRABHA RAU

M.H. AMBAREESH

VILAS BABURAO MUTTEMWAR

GADDE RAMAMOHAN

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

- (a) whether Afghanistan had sought certain vehicles and ambulances from India to meet its security related requirements;
- (b) if so, whether the Government has decided to provide 300 vehicles for the use of Afghanistan army;
- (c) whether Pakistan is not giving clearance to Afghanistan to receive the delivery of about 150 vehicles proposed to be sent by India;
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether any discussions have been held to get the clearance of Pakistan in this regard; and
- (f) if so, the details and the outcome thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH)

(a)-(b) Yes. As part of our contribution to the establishment of the new Afghan National Army, the Indian Government had decided to gift 300 vehicles. 115 of these vehicles are in the process of despatch.

(c)-(f) The Pakistan Government has not permitted transit of these vehicles through its territory, despite requests from the Government of the Transitional Islamic State of Afghanistan.