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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO: 1566

ANSWERED ON: 30.11.2011

INSTABILITY IN AFGHANISTAN

ANIRUDHAN SAMPATH

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

- (a) whether the instability in Afghanistan may affect our country's progress, security, trade, transport, energy, etc.;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to extend funds for any project/aid to Afghanistan; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS(SMT. PRENEET KAUR)

- (a) & (b) Instability in Afghanistan poses a major challenge to security and development of not only India but the entire region and beyond.
- (c) & (d) India has pledged an additional US \$ 500 million of assistance to Afghanistan during the Prime Minister's visit to Afghanistan on May 12-13, 2011, bringing India's total pledged assistance to Afghanistan since 2001 to around US \$ 2 billion. India and Afghanistan also signed the Strategic Partnership Agreement on October 4, 2011 which reiterates India's long-term commitment for the all-round development of Afghanistan.