

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.6223
TO BE ANSWERED ON 12.04.2017**

SAARC TUBERCULOSIS AND HIV/AIDS CENTRE

6223. SHRI R.P. MARUTHARAJAA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) **whether the Government proposes to offer financial assistance for upgradation of SAARC Tuberculosis and HIV/AIDS Centre (STAC) laboratory in Kathmandu and supply of medical equipment for the diagnostic centre at the Indira Gandhi Institute of Child Health in Kabul; and**
- (b) **if so, the details thereof?**

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b) **Yes. In keeping with India's announcement at the 18th SAARC Summit, held in Kathmandu in November 2014, to meet the shortfall in funds to establish the SAARC Regional Supra-national Reference Laboratory for TB and HIV, an amount of US\$ 1.05 million was made available through Embassy of India, Kathmandu, for upgradation of the laboratory at SAARC Tuberculosis and HIV/AIDS Centre(STAC), Kathmandu. The Centre is currently working towards upgradation of the existing laboratory.**

Supply of medical equipment for setting up a Diagnostic Centre at the Indira Gandhi Institute of Child Health in Kabul (Afghanistan) has been completed in March 2016 at a total cost of Rs. 21.03 crores.
