GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2420 TO BE ANSWERED ON 01.08.2018

SUSPENSION OF SECURITY AID TO PAKISTAN

2420. SHRI B. SENGUTTUVAN:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

whether it was the Government's aggressive pursuit of foreign policy that the US has suspended security aid to Pakistan pending its concrete and decisive action against the Afghan Taliban and Haqqani network and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

In his remarks during the release of the U.S. Administration's Strategy in Afghanistan and South Asia on 21 August 2017 as well as in his tweet on 1 January 2018, U.S. President Trump has publicly drawn attention to Pakistan's duplicity in receiving large assistance from the U.S. while continuing to harbour terrorists that the U.S. is fighting.

On 04 January 2018, the U.S. Government announced suspension of all security assistance to Pakistan unless required by a U.S. law or exempted on a case-by-case basis on the basis of national security interests. The suspension covers delivery of military equipment and release of reimbursement from Coalition Support Fund to Pakistan for U.S. FY 2016 onwards, and in some cases for previous years as well. According to the U.S. Government, the suspension will be in place until the Pakistan Government takes decisive action against groups, including the Afghan Taliban and the Haqqani Network, that the U.S. considers destabilizing.

India has consistently conveyed its concerns and sensitivities to the U.S. Government regarding U.S. security assistance to Pakistan. India and the U.S. share similar concerns over the threat posed by terrorism and extremism to peace and security in the region. The Joint Statement issued during the visit of the Prime Minister to the United States in June 2017, inter alia, calls on Pakistan "to ensure that its territory is not used to launch terrorist attacks on other countries."
