

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No.2721
TO BE ANSWERED ON 04.08.2021**

WITHDRAWAL FROM AFGHANISTAN

†2721. SHRI SUDARSHAN BHAGAT:
SHRI GNANATHIRAVIAM S.:
SHRI RAVNEET SINGH BITTU:
SHRI LALLU SINGH:
SHRI VIJAYAKUMAR (ALIAS) VIJAY VASANTH:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the security situation in Afghanistan has worsened resulting in evacuation of Indian officials and security forces from Indian Embassy and Missions;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including Indian Projects in Afghanistan;
- (c) whether the delivery of Visa and consular services have also been discontinued and it is also proposed to close down the mission in the near future;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps being taken to protect the lives of Indian officials and Indians residing in Afghanistan?

ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
[SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN]

(a) to (e) The security situation in Afghanistan has deteriorated in the recent past. In view of this, Government remains vigilant and is taking all necessary measures to ensure the safety and security of Indian nationals and ongoing projects. The Embassy of India in Kabul continues to function normally and is providing regular services, including consular and visa. As a security measure in July 2021, India-based personnel from the Consulate of India in Kandahar were temporarily withdrawn. However, the Consulate continues to operate visa and consular services through its local staff. Our Mission in Kabul also continues to extend necessary assistance to Indian nationals in Afghanistan. Security advisories for Indian nationals are issued regularly.
