## GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

## LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1093 TO BE ANSWERED ON 03.12.2021

## SIKHS EVACUATED FROM AFGHANISTAN

## **1093.** SHRI GURJEET SINGH AUJLA:

Will the Minister of **External Affairs** be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of Indian Sikhs who were evacuated from Afghanistan and the facilities/amenities being provided to them after their evacuation;
- (b) whether Indian High Commission and Indian Consulate in Kabul and Kandhar are looking after the safety and security of Sikh nationals and if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether our missions in Kabul and Kandhar are vigilant to ensure that Sikh Gurudwaras and Hindu Temples are not demolished and if so, the details thereof?

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

(a) to (c) 74 members of minority community from Afghanistan, primarily Afghan Sikhs, were evacuated onboard the special Indian Air Force/Air India flights arranged by the Government of India under the "Operation Devi Shakti".

Indian Embassy and Consulates in Afghanistan have always maintained regular contact with the members of Afghan Hindu-Sikh minority community which looked after the various Gurudwaras and Hindu temples in Afghanistan.

\*\*\*