

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3879
TO BE ANSWERED ON 25.03.2022**

FINANCIAL AID TO AFGHANISTAN

3879. SHRI BHOLANATH (B.P. SAROJ)

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

- (a) the details of financial aid/consignment including wheat provided/supplied to Afghanistan during the last two years;
- (b) whether the evacuation of Indians from Afghanistan has been completed; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the number of those still stranded in Afghanistan?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c) India has historical and civilizational ties with Afghanistan. India's development partnership with Afghanistan included projects spread across each of the 34 provinces of the country in critical areas such as power, water supply, road connectivity, health-care, education, agriculture and capacity building.

In the last two years, India has contributed to the humanitarian requirements of the people of Afghan. This included providing 75,000 MTs of wheat (2020), COVID related medical supplies (June 2020) and 500,000 doses of COVID vaccine (January 2021).

In the recent past, post August 15, 2021 several shipments of humanitarian assistance consisting of 10,000 MTs of wheat, 13 tons of life saving essential medicines, 500,000 doses of COVID Vaccine and 500 units of winter clothing were sent to Afghanistan. These consignments were handed over to the Indira Gandhi Children Hospital, Kabul and UN specialized agencies, namely, World Food Programme (WFP) and World Health Organisation (WHO).

Under Operation Devi Shakti, a total of 669 people were evacuated. This included 448 Indian nationals, 206 Afghans (including Hindu Sikh minority community members) and 15 people of other nationalities (Nepal, Lebanon and Uganda) in seven flights (6 flights operated between August 16 and 25, 2021 and the last flight on December 10, 2021). All Indian nationals who had sought repatriation to India were evacuated.
