

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**  
**MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**  
**LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO- 2084**

**ANSWERED ON – 01/08/2025**

**RELATIONSHIP WITH U.S.A ON MILITARY ASSISTANCE**

**2084. SHRI BALWANT BASWANT WANKHADE**

**Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether any official proposal was received from the United States regarding the sale of F-35 fighter jets to India following the announcement by the USA President in February;**
- (b) the role of the American diplomats to stop hostilities between India and Pakistan; and**
- (c) whether the Government has reviewed the relationship between US military assistance proposals and autonomy in terms of India's foreign policy in view of the strategic implication especially in a conflict scenario involving third-party mediation?**

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**

**(SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH)**

**(a) The India-US Joint Statement following the meeting of Prime Minister with U.S. President Donald Trump on 13th February 2025 mentions that the U.S. will undertake a review of its policy on releasing fifth generation fighters (such as the F-35) and undersea systems to India. No formal discussions have been held as yet on this issue.**

**(b & c) Between 22 April, when the Pahalgam terrorist attack happened and 10 May, there were a number of diplomatic conversations with various countries at different levels, including with the United States. All our interlocutors were given a common message that India's approach was focused, measured and non-escalatory. With specific reference to the United States, it was conveyed to Vice President J.D. Vance on 09 May that India would appropriately respond if Pakistan launched a major attack. The discussion to cease military action took place directly between India and Pakistan through the existing channels of communication**

**between the two-armed forces, and it was initiated at Pakistan's request.**

**As regards any proposal for third party mediation, our longstanding position remains that any outstanding issue with Pakistan will be discussed only bilaterally. This has been made clear to all nations, including by the Prime Minister to the U.S. President.**

**The India-U.S. Comprehensive Global Strategic Partnership is anchored in mutual trust, shared interests, goodwill and robust engagement between our citizens. The partnership has also benefited from growing strategic convergence and cooperation. The Government of India closely evaluates all its external partnerships, including those in the defence and strategic domains, through the prism of India's national interest and commitment to strategic autonomy.**

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