

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.135
TO BE ANSWERED ON 24.02.2016**

ATTACK ON INDIAN CONSULATE

**135. SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA:
SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE:
SHRI ASHOK SHANKARRAO CHAVAN:
SHRI ALOK SANJAR:**

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Indian Consulate in Afghanistan's Mazar-e-Sharif came under attack recently and if so, the details in this regard;**
- (b) the number of casualties reported therein;**
- (c) whether the Government has conducted any enquiry in this matter in consultation with Afghan authorities;**
- (d) if so, the details and the outcome thereto; and**
- (e) the effective steps taken/ proposed to be taken to prevent such incidents in the future?**

ANSWER

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

(a) to (e) The Consulate General of India in Mazar-e-Sharif in Balkh Province, Northern Afghanistan was attacked by terrorists on January 3-4, 2016. During their operations, Afghan National Defense and Security Forces (ANDSF) killed four terrorists involved in the attack. Mr. Mohammad Salim of ANDSF died in the attack while ten personnel of ANDSF and one civilian were injured. All Indian diplomats and staff deployed at the Consulate General were unharmed in the attack due to the efforts of the Consulate's India-based security team and the Afghan security forces.

Government awaits detailed information from Afghan authorities regarding the result of their investigation into the attack.

Government of India has been upgrading, on a regular basis, all security arrangements at our Embassy and four Consulates in Afghanistan. These measures are undertaken in close consultations with, and with the assistance of, Afghan security agencies. In the light of the recent terrorist attack, Government has undertaken further review of security measures in Afghanistan in coordination with Afghan authorities, and is taking all necessary steps to ensure safety and security of the Consulate and its personnel.
