

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:911
ANSWERED ON:06.03.2002
AFGHAN POLICY
RAMSHETH THAKUR

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have prepared an Afghan policy; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH)

(a)-(b) The developments and situation in Afghanistan impact directly on India's national interests including its security interests. The government, therefore, closely monitors the developments in Afghanistan. The essential elements of government's policy on Afghanistan are:

- (i) India's commitment to the unity, sovereignty, territorial integrity and independence of Afghanistan
- (ii) India is in favour of establishment of a broad-based political system giving equitable representation to all groups in Afghanistan to be put in place by Afghans themselves, in order to ensure long term peace and stability in Afghanistan
- (iii) India is committed to provide humanitarian relief, reconstruction and rehabilitation assistance in post conflict Afghanistan.