GOVERNMENT OF INDIA EXTERNAL AFFAIRS LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:339 ANSWERED ON:18.08.2004 LIFTING OF SANCTIONS BY US Rao Shri Sambasiva Rayapati

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether U.S. has lifted all sanctions and announced economic and military assistance to Pakistan;
- (b) if so, whether U.S. has not lifted its sanctions against India till now;
- (c) if so, whether India has protested to U.S. on this count;
- (d) whether Pakistan is continuing to help and assist militants in J&K; and
- (e) if so, the extent to which the U.S. has been able to pressurize Pakistan to stop helping terrorists in J&K?`

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED)

(a to e): A Statement is placed on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in parts (a) to (e) of the answer to Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 339 to be answered on 18.08.2004

(a) Sanctions imposed after nuclear tests by Pakistan in 1998 have been lifted. However, sanctions imposed after the military takeover in Pakistan in 1999 continue, though in practice, they have been waived annually by the US President since the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2004.

In June 2003, the US announced a package of assistance to Pakistan of about \$3 billion, divided equally between economic and military assistance spread over five years beginning financial year 2005.

- (b) US has lifted all sanctions against India.
- (c) The question does not arise.
- (d) After the November 25, 2003 ceasefire along the International border, the LOC and the AGPL in J&K, there had been some decline in the level of infiltration till May 2004. Infiltration levels have increased in June and July and Pakistan has so far not taken any credible steps to dismantle the infrastructure of support to terrorism in that country. Recent reports suggest efforts in the context of reviving some training camps and launching pads.
- (e) U.S. Government has from time to time spoken, including in public, about the need to end infiltration and to dismantle the infrastructure of terrorism in Pakistan. However, infiltration across the border and the line of control has not stopped, and no significant steps have been taken to dismantle the infrastructure of terrorism. In recent public statements, US officials have also recognized that infiltration continues and that `all the infrastructure that supports cross-border activities has not been dismantled`.