

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2333
ANSWERED ON:11.03.2015
INDIAN AID TO SRI LANKA
Chandrakasi Shri M.

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of Indian assistance so far provided to Sri Lanka for relief and rehabilitation of war affected areas ;
- (b) the mechanism being followed in implementing and monitoring the Indian assistance programme;
- (c) whether any agreement has been signed with Sri Lanka to resettle the Sri Lankan refugees presently in India to Sri Lanka;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the steps taken/proposed to be taken in this regard?

Answer

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

- (a) Since 2009, GoI has committed developmental assistance worth Rs. 7800 crore as grants and Lines of Credit for various projects for the rehabilitation of IDPs and reconstruction of infrastructure in the Northern and Eastern Provinces of Sri Lanka including a Housing Project for construction of 50,000 houses in the North, East and Central Provinces; Rehabilitation of the Northern Railway line, Palaly airport and Kankesanthurai harbour; setting up vocational training centres and child care centres; construction of hospitals; livelihood and employment generation projects; women's empowerment programme; construction of a cultural centre at Jaffna and other small developmental projects.
- (b) The implementation and monitoring of the Indian Assistance Programme are done by Government of India through Indian High Commission in Colombo in coordination with Government of Sri Lanka.
- (c) to (e) The issue of voluntary repatriation of Sri Lankan Tamil Refugees in India was raised by External Affairs Minister Smt. Sushma Swaraj with Minister of Foreign Affairs of Sri Lanka Mr. Mangala Samaraweera during his visit to India from 17-19 January 2015. It was agreed to start bilateral consultation process on this issue before end January 2015. A meeting between the two sides was held on 30 January 2015.