

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5087
ANSWERED ON:13.08.2014
SECURITY TO OFFICIALS IN MISSIONS ABROAD
Panda Shri Baijayant "Jay"

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken adequate steps to ensure the safety and security of officials in the consular offices and diplomatic missions in conflict stricken countries across the world and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether any such officials posted abroad have lost their lives in the line of duty in these strife-torn countries and if so, details in this regard; and
- (c) the details of emergency evacuations that had to be conducted to safely bring back such officials?

Answer

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

- (a) The Government of India has taken several measures to ensure the safety and security of officials in the consular offices and diplomatic missions in conflict stricken countries across the world. Under Vienna Convention, the responsibility for security of foreign diplomatic establishments and officials lies with the host country. In some conflict stricken countries we have deployed paramilitary contingents with the approval of local governments.
- (b) Yes. We have lost six diplomatic officials of our Embassy/Consulates in Afghanistan in the terrorist attacks. In addition, 11 other Indian officials have also been killed in different attacks in Afghanistan. A list providing the details of these incidences is attached.
- (c) No emergency evacuation has been conducted for officials of our Missions in recent past. Last emergency evacuation of India's diplomatic officials in a foreign country was from Afghanistan in 1996.