

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3839
TO BE ANSWERED ON 25.03.2022**

HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

3839. SHRI A. GANESHAMURTHI:

Will the Minister of **External Affairs** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of food supplies and the other humanitarian assistance provided to the people of Afghanistan in the last two years, year-wise;
- (b) whether any Memorandum of Understanding has been signed with World Food Programme (WFP) for distributing food items to the people of Afghanistan; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof;

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
[SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN]

(a) to (c) India has historical and civilizational ties with Afghanistan. India's development partnership with Afghanistan included projects spread across each of the 34 provinces of the country in critical areas such as power, water supply, road connectivity, health care, education, agriculture and capacity building.

In the last two years, India has contributed to the humanitarian requirements of the people of Afghan. This included providing of 75,000 MTs of wheat (2020), COVID related medical supplies (June 2020) and 500,000 doses of COVID vaccine (January 2021).

In the recent past, post August 15, 2021 several shipments of humanitarian assistance consisting of 10,000 MTs of wheat, 13 tons of life saving essential medicines, 500,000 doses of COVID Vaccine and 500 units of winter clothing were sent to Afghanistan. These consignments were handed over to the Indira Gandhi Children Hospital, Kabul and UN specialized agencies, namely, World Food Programme (WFP) and World Health Organisation (WHO).

In response to appeals made by the United Nations for humanitarian assistance to Afghanistan and given our special historical relationship with the Afghan people, Government of India decided to provide humanitarian

assistance to the Afghan people, including 50,000 MTs of wheat. The wheat assistance, in multiple consignments is handed over to the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) in Jalalabad, Afghanistan. In this regard, the Government of India has signed an agreement with the WFP for the distribution of wheat assistance within Afghanistan. As of now, 10,000 MTs of wheat has already been dispatched to Afghanistan under this agreement.
