

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3154
ANSWERED ON:13.08.2003
US AID TO PAKISTAN
M. JAGANNATH;NARESH KUMAR PUGLIA

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

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- (a) whether the United States has promised a \$ 3 billion package for Pakistan, including military aid;
- (b) if so, the details in this regard;
- (c) whether the supply of arms to Pakistan by US in the name of combating terrorism is extended as an incentive for the help provide to US by Pakistan during Iraq war;
- (d) if so, whether India's Foreign Secretary had sought clarifications from the US leaders about the quantum of aid and the types of defence items that may be supplied under it;
- (e) if so, the details thereof;
- (f) whether the US aid package to Pakistan is of great concern to India;
- (g) if so, the reaction of the Government of India thereto;
- (h) whether any protest has been lodged with the US in this regard; and
- (i) if so, the details in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH)

(a) Yes.

(b) Following the meeting between President George W. Bush and President Musharraf at Camp David on 24 June 2003, President Bush announced that he will work with the United States Congress on a \$3 billion assistance package for Pakistan. According to details announced by the U.S. Administration, the United States is considering this assistance over five years, at about \$ 600 million per year, starting from the U.S. fiscal year 2005 (01.10. 2004 to 30.9. 2005), about half in economic assistance and half in military aid through its Foreign Military Financing Programme.

(c) President Bush expressed appreciation for Pakistan's support in the war on terrorism and announced that the proposed aid package was "to help advance security and economic opportunity for Pakistan's citizens".

(d) The proposed U.S. aid to Pakistan came up in Foreign Secretary's meetings with senior U.S. officials in Washington D.C. in July 2003.

(e) The U.S. Administration says that details of economic and military aid have not been worked out. It has clarified, however, that new F16 aircraft would not be given to Pakistan under this programme, although upgrading of Pakistan's existing F16 aircraft could be considered. Government understands that economic and military aid to Pakistan would have to be appropriated by the United States Congress. The U.S. Administration has also stated that for Pakistan to receive the proposed aid, the United States would have to be satisfied that Pakistan is "working vigorously with us in the war against terrorism, is working vigorously to ensure that there is no onward proliferation and is moving smartly towards democracy".

(f) Government will monitor the actual size and nature of U.S. assistance to Pakistan to assess its implications for India.

(g), (h) and (i) It is for the United States to define its relationship with Pakistan. However, Government has consistently conveyed to the United States that it must take into account India-U.S. relations and the impact on India's security in deciding its military assistance to Pakistan.