

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:24

ANSWERED ON:02.03.2005

RECONSTRUCTION WORK IN IRAQ

Rao Shri Kavuru Samba Siva;Yaskhi Shri Madhu Goud

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether subsequent to the elections in Iraq, Baghdad's envoy has requested the Union Government for assistance in the reconstruction efforts there as reported in the Hindustan Times dated February 5, 2005.

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) the sectors in which assistance has been sought for by Iraq; and

(d) the response of the Union Government thereto?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): Government has seen the report in the Hindustan Times dated February 5, 2005. However, no fresh request has been received by the Government from the Iraqi envoy, subsequent to the recent elections in Iraq for assistance in the reconstruction efforts in that country.

(c) & (d): The Iraqi authorities had earlier requested for manpower training in various fields. The Government has been assisting Iraq in the reconstruction work through development of its human resource by providing training in India to Iraqi officials in wide ranging areas including diplomacy, information technology, industrial electronics & instrumentation, agro-industries, entrepreneurship development, management development, human resource planning and development, promotion of micro enterprises, industrial project preparation etc.