

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2151
ANSWERED ON:16.03.2005
DONOR ASSISTANCE FROM G-8 COUNTRIES
Prabhu Shri Suresh Prabhakar

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) Whether the Union Government in September last year reversed the decision and allowed the flow of donor assistance from G-8 countries;
- (b) If so, whether this decision has been formally communicated to the G-8 countries; and
- (c) If so, the details in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) Yes Sir.

(b)&(c) The Government of India reviewed the policy of bilateral development cooperation to affirm the liberalization and reform orientation in India's economic policy. Bilateral development assistance will now be accepted from all G-8 countries, namely, Japan, United Kingdom, United States of America, Canada, Germany, Italy, France, Russian Federation as well as from the European Commission. Further, such assistance will also be accepted from non G-8 European Union countries providing a minimum bilateral aid package of US \$ 25 million per annum to India. The policy also entails a simplified procedure to facilitate the flow of bilateral assistance to non-governmental organizations and autonomous institutions.