

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6223
ANSWERED ON:12.04.2017
SAARC Tuberculosis and HIV/AIDS Centre
Marutharajaa Shri R.P.

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to offer financial assistance for upgradation of SAARC Tuberculosis and HIV/AIDS Centre (STAC) laboratory in Kathmandu and supply of medical equipment for the diagnostic centre at the Indira Gandhi Institute of Child Health in Kabul; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) Yes. In keeping with India's announcement at the 18th SAARC Summit, held in Kathmandu in November 2014, to meet the shortfall in funds to establish the SAARC Regional Supra-national Reference Laboratory for TB and HIV, an amount of US\$ 1.05 million was made available through Embassy of India, Kathmandu, for upgradation of the laboratory at SAARC Tuberculosis and HIV/AIDS Centre(STAC), Kathmandu. The Centre is currently working towards upgradation of the existing laboratory.

Supply of medical equipment for setting up a Diagnostic Centre at the Indira Gandhi Institute of Child Health in Kabul (Afghanistan) has been completed in March 2016 at a total cost of Rs. 21.03 crores.
