GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OFEXTERNAL AFFAIRS RAJYA SABHA QUESTION NO13.03.2008 ANSWERED ON

SUICIDE ATTACK IN AFGHANISTAN.

Prof.

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Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATIONHEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARERAILWAYSHOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATIONEXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :-

- (a) whether Government is aware of suicide attack on a convoy of the Border Roads Organization (BRO) in Afghanistan, recently;
- (b) if so, the details of causalities held due to attack on a convoy of the BRO;
- (c) whether the Union Government has sent a team to review security arrangements and identify additional measures to protect Indians in the reconstruction of the war-ravaged country; and
- (d) if so, the details of the reports submitted by the team; and
- (e) to what extent the Indians working in Afghanistan are being protected by security agencies?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

(SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE)

(a) & (b)Yes. On January 3, 2008, a BRO convoy was attacked by militants resulting in death of two Indian personnel and injuries to 5 others. Nineteen Afghan Civil Security personnel/civilians were also killed and 25 injured in the attack.

(c)Yes.

(d) & (e)The security of Indian nationals in Afghanistan is under Government's constant review and scrutiny. Government are also in constant touch with the Government of Afghanistan with regard to security for Indians in Afghanistan. In addition, Government have deployed Indian security personnel for the Zaranj-Delaram road project being executed by Border Roads Organisation in the Nimroz province of Afghanistan. Indian nationals registered with the Embassy are regularly advised on the prevailing security scenario in the country.