

LAC. Government regularly takes up any transgression along the LAC with the Chinese side through established mechanisms including border personnel meetings, flag meetings and diplomatic channels. The two sides have reiterated, on many occasions, their commitment to maintain peace and tranquility along the Line of Actual Control in the India-China border areas, pending a final settlement of the Boundary Question. The Prime Ministers of India and China reiterated this understanding during their meeting in Hanoi in October, 2010. Government keeps a constant watch on all developments having a bearing on India's security and takes all necessary measures to safeguard it.

Interpretation facilities in Indian Missions

3278. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the name of the Indian Embassies/High Commissions where interpretation facilities, from Hindi to local foreign language and *vice versa*, is available;

(b) the reasons for non-availability of such interpretation facilities in the remaining Indian Embassies/High Commissions; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to create an all India Interpretation Service for the facilitation of Indian dignitaries who desire to have discussion with foreign dignitaries in Hindi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI PRENEET KAUR): (a) and (b) This Ministry's Interpreters' Cadre consists of officers with knowledge of one of the UN language *viz.*, Chinese, Russian, French, Spanish and Arabic. Ministry has also recruited German and Persian speaking officers. Some of these officers are presently posted in Missions abroad. All these officers have working knowledge of Hindi and can do interpretation from Hindi to the local foreign language and *vice versa*, if required. Further, all IFS officers are required to be proficient in one foreign language. These officers when posted in the Indian Embassies/High Commissions are often called upon to interpret for visiting dignitaries. India has Embassies/High Commissions in more than 120 countries. In several of these countries the local language is specific to that country. There are no Hindi-knowing interpreters in these Missions. We often have local interpreters who help the visiting dignitaries with interpretation in English from the local foreign language and *vice versa*.

(c) Taking into consideration the large number of local foreign languages spoken in places where India has Embassies/High Commissions it is not feasible to have an all India Interpretation Service.

Mismanagement by Haj Committee

3279. SHRIMATI KUSUM RAI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state: