

Group	Sanctioned staff strength	Posts earmarked for SCs	SCs in position	Posts earmarked for STs	STs in position
A	1129	58	141	24	60
B	1997	294	203	146	113
C	962	142	173	70	19
D	According to the Government instructions, since April 2010, all Group 'D' posts have been upgraded to Group 'C'. Accordingly, all erstwhile Group 'D' posts have been included in the figures for Group 'C'.				

(c) The Ministry of External Affairs follows the Government of India's reservation policy. For Group 'A' posts, the reservation applies only at the induction stage whereas the figures mentioned above reflect the actual number of officers in position across the entire Group 'A' cadres. The shortage in Group 'B' and 'C' posts is primarily on account of non-availability of eligible candidates. The Ministry makes all possible efforts for filling up the backlog vacancies through special recruitment drives conducted by the Government from time to time.

#### **Threat to Arunachal Pradesh due to dams on Brahmaputra**

355. SHRI ANIL MADHAV DAVE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received any representation from citizens of Arunachal Pradesh about the possible threat to their State from the dams on Brahmaputra river being built in Tibet by China;

(b) if so, action Government has initiated to allay the fears of the people of Arunachal Pradesh;

(c) whether Government of India registered its objections to Government of China on this issue; and

(d) if so, in what forms and at what platforms?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED): (a) to (d) Government is aware of Chinese activities on the Yarlung Zangbo (Brahmaputra) River in the Tibet Autonomous Region of China. Government has taken up this matter with the Chinese side at various political and official interactions between the two countries. The Chinese Premier, during his visit to India in December 2010, said that China's development of upstream areas will never harm downstream interests. Government has ascertained that the dam at Zangmu in the Tibet Autonomous Region is a run-of-the-river

hydro-electric project, which does not store water and will not adversely impact the downstream areas in India. A large proportion of the catchment of the Brahmaputra is within Indian territory. It is important that the Indian States of Arunachal Pradesh and Assam harness and utilize the waters of the Brahmaputra. Government keeps a constant watch on all developments having a bearing on India's national interest and takes all necessary measures to safeguard it.

#### **Giving of Indian Land to Bangladesh**

‡356. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that during his recent visit to Bangladesh, Prime Minister entered into an agreement under which some pieces of land have been given to Bangladesh;
- (b) whether there has been a wide opposition in the country against this agreement; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED): (a) to (c) A Protocol to the Agreement Concerning the Demarcation of the Land Boundary between India and Bangladesh and Related Matters, 1974, was signed during the visit of the Prime Minister to Bangladesh on September 06-07, 2011. The Protocol addresses the outstanding land boundary issues pertaining to the un-demarcated land boundary, exchange of enclaves and territories in adverse possession. The implementation of the Protocol will result in the exchange of 111 Indian enclaves in Bangladesh with 51 Bangladesh enclaves in India and preserve *status quo* on territories in adverse possession. The Protocol is based on the situation on the ground, takes into account the wishes of the people residing in the areas involved and has been prepared in close consultation with the State Governments concerned.

#### **Pakistan declaring India as MFN**

‡357. SHRI MOHAN SINGH:

SHRI N. BALAGANGA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Pakistan has declared India as Most Favoured Nation (MFN);
- (b) if so, the extent of effect of this declaration likely to have on trade relations of both countries;
- (c) whether Pakistan's interference in internal matters of India would decrease after declaring it most favoured nation; and

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‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.