

**Impact of Ccontract from Nepal to China**

970. SHRI TARUN VIJAY :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether China has bagged huge contract in Nepal for development works in Lumbini;
- (b) the details of this contract in terms of cost, work assignment and time-frame work for completing the project;
- (c) the likely ramifications for India of such a contract bagged by China;
- (d) Government's perception about such Chinese presence too close to India; and
- (e) whether such a move is a risk factor for our security?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED) : (a) to (e) Government has seen media reports to this effect. Government is aware of China's enhanced economic and technological capabilities in execution of infrastructure projects in developing countries such as Nepal. Government closely follows all developments having a bearing on India's national interest and takes all necessary measures to safeguard it.

**Officers Apprehended for Spying**

†971. SHRI OM PRAKASH MATHUR :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

- (a) the number of Indian officers posted abroad who were caught on the charges of spying or who have settled abroad after resigning from the service and Government of India does not have any information about them; and
- (b) the action taken against them and the action being taken by Government against those who could not be caught?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI PRENEET KAUR) : (a) and (b) In the recent past, there has been a case of an Indian officer posted abroad who was caught on charges of espionage. That case is currently before the trial court. As regards the officers who resign from the Government, they are free to settle at any place of their choice after resigning and the Government is not required to maintain the details of their residence.

---

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi