

Pakistan and the United States of America not to attack terrorist training camps in Pakistan and Pakistan occupied Kashmir that have been training terrorists against India.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

#### **Diplomats in Indian missions**

1431. SHRI ANIL MADHAV DAVE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the current strength of diplomats serving in Indian missions and posts around the world;

(b) whether Government acknowledges that India's diplomatic corps are far too small to adequately represent India's global interests; and

(c) the steps taken to address the shortfall?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI PRENEET KAUR): (a) At present, total sanctioned strength of diplomatic officers in Indian missions and posts abroad is 971. This figure excludes the posts of Stenographers' Cadre which are inter-changeable between the diplomatic and non-diplomatic ranks.

(b) and (c) The need for optimal requirement of human resource keeps changing with India's expanding and diversifying global role, and the Ministry of External Affairs regularly monitors such changes and adjusts its personnel strength for meeting these needs to the extent possible. Important recent measures in this direction have been the IFS Expansion Plan and the IFS (B) Cadre Review to address these requirements in a more structured and comprehensive manner.

#### **Open-ended working group on nuclear disarmament**

1432. SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India is participating in the Open-Ended Working Group on Nuclear Disarmament set up by the United Nation's General Assembly (UNGA) at its last session; and

(b) if so, whether India would be continuing in the Open-Ended Working Group advocacy of the 1988 Rajiv Gandhi Action Plan (RGAP) for nuclear weapons free worlds and non-violent world order?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED): (a) and (b) India is participating in the Open-Ended Working Group (OEWG) on "Taking forward multilateral nuclear disarmament negotiations" being held in Geneva. During the discussions in the OEWG, India's representatives have highlighted the 1988 Rajiv Gandhi Action Plan to attain the goal of nuclear disarmament in a time-bound, universal, non-discriminatory, phased and verifiable manner.

#### **Trade advisory against Chinese firms**

1433. SHRI S. THANGAVELU: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has issued trade advisory against certain Chinese firms and if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether Indian embassy in Beijing has been receiving complaints against Chinese firms which duped Indian businessmen and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED): (a) and (b) Consequent to the increase in India - China bilateral trade, there have been some instances of trade disputes. These are handled by the traders themselves on the basis of relevant rules and regulations of the country concerned. Government from time to time have issued trade advisories for Indian firms doing, or interested in doing, business with China. These advisories are intended to enhance commercial cooperation between India and China by addressing some of the risks faced by Indian enterprises.

#### **Offer from Pakistan for discussion over issues**

1434. SHRI S. THANGAVELU: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has received fresh offer from the new Pakistan Government for discussion on all pending issues and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether India is carefully examining Pakistan's offer; and