(b) No, Sir.

275

2013

(c) At present, in the UPSC, there is no member from OBC Category.

Chinese-built mega port terminal in Sri Lanka

220

110

*536. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a China-built mega port terminal with seventy per cent of project cost met with financial assistance from the China Development Bank has opened up in Sri Lanka's capital; and
- (b) whether this facility could be potentially used by China for strategic military purposes in the future?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) and (b) The Colombo South Container Terminal (CSCT) located at Colombo Port has been developed by the Colombo International Container Terminals Ltd. (CICT) which is a joint venture company between China Merchant Holdings International (CMHI) and Sri Lanka Ports Authority (SLPA). The project involved an investment of US\$ 500 million and has been financed by a loan of US\$ 350 million from the China Development Bank with the rest of the capital to be raised by shareholders equity. The project was completed in April, 2014. The development of CSCT has been undertaken with the objective of expansion of Colombo Port to cater to the increasing demand of services in the international shipping industry.

Status of the Planning Commission

- *537. SHRI RONALD SAPA TLAU: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the post of Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission is vacant, if so, the reasons therefor;