

(c) whether Government has conducted the Cadre Review under the Recruitment Rules and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (GENERAL (RETD.) V. K. SINGH): (a) The total sanctioned strength of IFS cadre is 941. The number of vacancies as on date is 30.

(b) There are no vacancies at Ambassador/High Commissioner.

(c) The Government has undertaken Cadre Reviews as per details below:—

**IFS**

- (i) 1st Cadre Review: 1976-77
- (ii) 2nd Cadre Review: 1983-1985
- (iii) 3rd Cadre Review: 1988-90
- (iv) 4th Cadre Review: 2004

**IFS (B)**

- (i) 1st Cadre Review: 2004
- (ii) 2nd Cadre Review: 2011

**Safety at work place in foreign countries**

1784. DR. SASIKALA PUSHPA RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has signed Memorandum of Undertakings (MoUs) with various countries including Gulf countries in the field of Manpower;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether "safety at work places" in foreign countries was given special attention/focus when MoUs were signed

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (GENERAL (RETD.) V. K. SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes. The Government has signed Labour

and manpower cooperation related Memorandum of Undertakings (MoUs)/Agreements with countries that are destination for a large number of Indian migrant workers. These include all the six Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries namely, Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates.

(c) to (e) While entering into these MOUs/Agreements, the government has accorded the highest priority to the safety and well-being of Indian workers. Broad principles underlying these MoUs/Agreements include:—

- Declaration of mutual intent to enhance employment opportunities and for bilateral cooperation in protection and welfare of workers;
- The host country to take measures for the protection and welfare of workers;
- Statement of the broad procedure that the foreign employer shall follow to recruit Indian workers;
- The recruitment and terms of employment to be in conformity with the laws of respective countries; and
- Setting up of Joint Working Groups to provide institutional mechanism to discuss labour and manpower related matters.

#### **Security architecture in Indo-Pacific region**

1785. SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any progress has been made to develop tie-up with US, Japan and Australia for building some kind of security architecture in the Indo-Pacific region;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any action plan has been drawn to fine tune the cooperation between the partners and Indo-Pacific Region countries to ensure security in the region; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (GENERAL (RETD.) V. K. SINGH): (a) to (d) Prime Minister enunciated India's vision for the Indo-Pacific region during his keynote address at the Shangri-La Dialogue in