

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3052
TO BE ANSWERED ON 22.03.2018

SHORTAGE OF STAFF STRENGTH IN INDIAN MISSIONS ABROAD

3052. DR. V. MAITREYAN:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any shortage of staff strength in Indian embassies, consulates and high commissions in various countries particularly U.K., USA, China and Pakistan;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefore and the current status of vacancy positions, mission wise;
- (c) the steps taken to fill up the vacancies and by when they would be filled;
- (d) whether Government has assigned and appointed any attache for various ministerial jobs abroad particularly in European Union; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
[GEN. (DR) V.K. SINGH (RETD)]

(a) to (c) There are 667 officers and 1251 support staff in our Missions and Posts. In addition, there are more than 2800 locally recruited staff currently deployed in Missions and Posts abroad. The Indian Missions/Posts abroad, including in UK, USA, China and Pakistan, are staffed in accordance with their respective sanctioned strengths. However, the requirement of manpower in any establishment changes depending upon varying workload from time to time. Ministry of External Affairs regularly reviews the requirement of manpower at various levels in Missions and Posts abroad as well as at the Headquarters, and takes appropriate action, including recruitment of additional officers and staff, through placement of requisite indents with the Union Public Service Commission and the Staff Selection Commission respectively, in case of shortfall.

(d) & (e) Defence Attaches are posted to Mission/Posts abroad, including in the European Union, against designated posts. Further, Section Officer level officers posted to Missions / Posts abroad are also designated as Attache.
