

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.231
TO BE ANSWERED ON 03.02.2022

LATERAL ENTRY TO FOREIGN SERVICE

231 SHRI ABDUL WAHAB:

Will the Minister of **External Affairs** be please to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry is functioning with less number of foreign service officers;
- (b) the details of current number of foreign service officers who are presently working with the Ministry; and
- (c) whether Government is considering for lateral entry of foreign service officers to various positions?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
[SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN]

(a) & (b) The sanctioned strength of the Indian Foreign Service is 1011, against which there are 848 officers at present.

(c) Vacancies arising in the Indian Foreign Service are filled by direct recruitment through the Civil Services Examination conducted by the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) and promotions from feeder cadre. Ministry of External Affairs also takes officers from other Ministries/ Departments on deputation.
