

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**  
**MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**

**LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO- 2219**

**ANSWERED ON- 12/12/2025**

**VACANTS POSTS IN MINISTRY**

**2219. SHRI JAGADISH CHANDRA BARMA BASUNIA**

**DR. SHARMILA SARKAR**

**Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :-**

**(a) the number of sanctioned posts and posts filled, including reserved posts in the Ministry of External Affairs, category-wise;**

**(b) the number of vacancies in the Ministry since 2014, year and category-wise; and**

**(c) the number of contractual employees hired since 2014, year and category-wise?**

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**

**[SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH]**

**(a & b) As on 01 December 2025, the total sanctioned strength of the Ministry across Group A, B, and C Services is 5986. Additionally, the local cadre staff strength in Ministry is 3161. Vacancies arising at various levels in the Ministry are filled by direct recruitment and promotion from feeder cadres. The Ministry also takes officers from other Ministries/Departments on deputation. Professionals and experts are currently hired in the Ministry as Consultants as per requirement. Generally, gaps between the departure of incumbents and the arrival of their successors for different posts are kept to a minimum. However, as deployment chains often involve several officers, short-term vacancies in HQ or Missions/Posts abroad may arise. It is not possible to determine the exact number of vacancies since this is a continuous process with some officers demitting charge and others assuming charge at different time intervals. The Ministry regularly reviews the requirement of manpower at various levels in Missions and Posts abroad as well as 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.**

**(c) The number of contractual employees hired since 2014**

**year-wise is as follows:**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Contractual/hired employees</b>
<b>2014</b>	<b>303</b>
<b>2015</b>	<b>344</b>
<b>2016</b>	<b>369</b>
<b>2017</b>	<b>400</b>
<b>2018</b>	<b>410</b>
<b>2019</b>	<b>421</b>
<b>2020</b>	<b>430</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>561</b>
<b>2022</b>	<b>647</b>
<b>2023</b>	<b>530</b>
<b>2024</b>	<b>355</b>
<b>2025</b>	<b>343</b>

**\* The category-wise data is not available with the Ministry.**

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