

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4201
ANSWERED ON:19.02.2014
SC ST AND OBCS IN FOREIGN SERVICES
Rawat Shri Ashok Kumar

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of officers belonging to Scheduled Castes (SCs), Scheduled Tribes (STs) and Other Backward Classes (OBCs) appointed in various embassies/commissions abroad during the last three years as on date;
- (b) the details of the norms followed for their appointment;
- (c) the number of IFS officers belonging to SC, ST, and OBC working in the Ministry as on date, category-wise; and
- (d) the effective measures being taken or proposed to be taken by the Government for the appointment of officers belonging to the said categories in Indian Missions in proportion to their population?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI PRENEET KAUR)

(a) As per records, (41 SC, 22 ST and 19 OBC) Officers belonging to the Indian Foreign Service are posted in various Embassies/High Commissions abroad as on date.

(b) The Indian Foreign Service Officers are posted/transferred to various Indian Missions /Posts abroad on the recommendation of the Foreign Service Board based on availability of posts, suitability and seniority. The criteria for consideration for a posting/transfer abroad is the same for all officers of the Indian Foreign Service including the officers belonging to the SC, ST and OBC.

(c) As on date the category wise break-up of IFS officers belonging to SC, ST and OBC working in the Ministry of External Affairs, including in over 183 Missions/Posts abroad is as follows:

Sr. No.	Category	No.
1.	Scheduled Caste	121
2.	Scheduled Tribes	54
3.	Other Backward Class	102
4.	General	483
	Total	760

(d) The postings/transfers of officers belonging to the Indian Foreign Service are done on the recommendations of the Foreign Service Board based on availability of posts, suitability and rotation principle. All the postings and transfers are done in public interest taking into consideration functional requirement of MEA headquarters in New Delhi and the Missions /Posts abroad.