

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2257
ANSWERED ON:02.12.2009
AMBASSADORS POSTED IN INDIAN MISSIONS
Rawat Shri Ashok Kumar

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the Ambassadors posted in various countries as on date, category-wise;
- (b) the number of posts of Ambassadors lying vacant including the period of their vacancy and the time by which these posts are likely to be filled up, country-wise; and
- (c) the number of Ambassadors belonging to the Indian Foreign Service, Indian Administrative Service, other Central Service or persons from public life?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI S. M. KRISHNA)

(a) There are presently 112 Heads of Missions (Ambassadors, High Commissioners and Permanent Representatives having rank of Ambassador) in countries abroad. The category-wise break-up is as follows- 1 Head of Mission has the rank of Minister of State, 24 are in the rank of Grade I of IFS, 41 are in the rank of Grade II of IFS, and the rest are in the rank of Grade III of IFS.

(b) There are 12 posts of Heads of Missions that are presently vacant, as per table enclosed at Annex I. The date from which each of these posts is vacant is also indicated. The Government is processing the steps for filling up these posts in the near future.

(c) Out of the 112 Indian Heads of Missions working at present, one HOM is from the Indian Administrative Service, and four HOMs are persons from public life or academics. All the other heads of Missions are from the Indian Foreign Service.

ANNEXURE-I

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (B) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2257 REGARDING "AMBASSADORS POSTED IN INDIAN MISSIONS" FOR ANSWER ON 02.12.2009

POSTS OF HOMs PRESENTLY VACANT

Station of HOM	Status Designation	Vacant Since
1. Addis Ababa	Vacant Ambassador	09/08/09
2. Kuala Lumpur	Vacant High Commissioner	09/11/09
3. Niamey [Niger]	Vacant Ambassador	01/05/09
4. Pyongyang	Vacant Ambassador	01/07/09
5. Vienna	Vacant Ambassador	01/11/09

6. Wellington Vacant High Commissioner 01/05/09

7. Algiers Vacant Ambassador 11/10/09

8. Baghdad Vacant Ambassador 20/12/04

9. Kinshasa Vacant Ambassador 25/08/09

10. Ulaanbaatar Vacant Ambassador 04/10/09

11. Warsaw Vacant Ambassador 21/09/09

12. Bangkok Vacant Ambassador 25/11/09