



RTI matter/ Time Bound

Government of India
Ministry of External Affairs
New Delhi

No. E/551/1/2020-RTI

03 November 2020

To:

Subject: Information sought under Right to Information Act, 2005

Sir,

Please refer to your RTI application bearing Registration No. MOEAF/R/T/20/00704 addressed to Ministry to RTI cell, Ministry of External Affairs, New Delhi, received by this Division on 08 October 2020.

2. It may be noted that under the provisions of RTI Act, 2005, a CPIO/ Public Authority is under obligation to provide an applicant only that information which exists in the records and that which is held by or under the control of that authority.
3. With respect to point no. 1 & 2 of your query, information sought is already available in public domain, which may be seen at the following website: <https://www.mea.gov.in>. A copy of the excerpt from the Media Briefings by Official Spokesperson is enclosed for your information.
4. With respect to point no. 3-6 of your query, information can not be shared by the undersigned CPIO in accordance with the provision of clause 8 (1) (a) of RTI Act, 2005.
5. If you are aggrieved with this reply, you may file an appeal to Shri Satish K. Sivan, Director (East Asia) & Appellate Authority, Ministry of External Affairs, South Block, New Delhi -110001, within a month from the date of receipt of this letter.

Yours faithfully,


3/11/2020

(Karthik G. Iyer)

DS (China) & CPIO
Room no. 270 A, South Block,
New Delhi - 110001
Telefax: 23011356
Email: dschina2@mea.gov.in

CC to:

1. Ms. Deepa Jain, Under Secretary (RTI), MEA, New Delhi

RTI REQUEST DETAILS (आरटीआई अनुरोध विवरण)

Registration Number (पंजीकरण संख्या) : MOEAF/R/T/20/00704 Date of Receipt (प्राप्ति की तारीख) 08/10/2020

Transferred From (से स्थानांतरित): Prime Minister's Office on 08/10/2020 With Reference Number : PMOIN/R/E/20/05677

Remarks (टिप्पणी) : RTI application is being transfer for appropriate action.

Type of Receipt (रसीद का प्रकार) : Electronically Transferred from Other Public Authority Language of Request (अनुरोध की भाषा) : English

Name (नाम) :

Address (पता) :

State (राज्य) :

Phone Number (फोन नंबर) :

Email-ID (ईमेल-आईडी) :

Status (स्थिति)(Rural/Urban) :

Education Status :

Requester Letter Number (निवेदक पत्र संख्या) : Details not provided

Letter Date : Details not provided

Is Requester Below Poverty Line ? (क्या आवेदक गरीबी रेखा से नीचे का है?) : No

Citizenship Status (नागरिकता) :

Amount Paid (राशि का भुगतान) : 10) (original recipient)

Mode of Payment (भुगतान का प्रकार) : Payment Gateway

Does it concern the life or Liberty of a Person? (क्या यह किसी व्यक्ति के जीवन अथवा स्वतंत्रता से संबंधित है?) : No(Normal)

Request Pertains to (अनुरोध निम्नलिखित संबंधित है) : US (China)

Information Sought (जानकारी मांगी):

- 1.A press release by chinese embassy in india regarding ordering indian media not report national day of taiwan.so what is government want to say about interference of chinese embassy in indian press freedom?
- 2.As per recent tweets or statements released by chinese government officials and government controlled media it is said that china does not recognise Ladakh and Arunachal pradesh as part of India.What does government wants to say about it?
- 3.Does India recognise one china policy?
- 4.what is the stand of government on freedom movement of tibetians from china?
- 5.what is the stand of Indian government on human rights voilations made by china in Uyighur,Hongkong,Tibet?
- 6.Does India Recognise Taiwan as country?

Original RTI Text (मूल आरटीआई पाठ):

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Transcript of Virtual Weekly Media Briefing by the Official Spokesperson (08 October 2020)

October 09, 2020

Shri Anurag Srivastava, Official Spokesperson:

Friends Namaskar and Good evening.

Welcome to this weekly briefing in the virtual format.

I'll start with an update on the Vande Bharat Mission. As on 7 October, 17.22 lakh Indians have been repatriated through different modes of the Vande Bharat Mission. These include Air India and Air India Express flights, private and foreign carriers, chartered flights, naval ships and land border crossings.

Under Phase 7 of VBM, operational since 1 October 2020, 873 international flights have been scheduled from 25 countries to be operated during the course of October 2020. These include flights from among the 14 countries with which India has a bilateral 'air bubble' arrangement in place. The air bubble arrangement has been working satisfactorily adding to the capacity.

These flights will reach 24 airports across India, repatriating an estimated 1.7 lakh people. As on 7 October, 210 flights have already been operated from 18 countries.

We continue to assess demand for repatriation from other countries and project the requirements to Air India so that more flights can be scheduled in the coming days. Now I'll move on to your questions. I'll ask Yatin to take over.

Shri Yatin Patel, OSD (PR): Sir, first set of question is on Dr. Abdullah Abdullah's last visit. Pushkar from the New Indian Express has asked - "was there a request from Afghan negotiator Abdullah Abdullah during his meeting with the Prime Minister for India to engage with the Taliban as part of the intra-Afghan peace dialogue?" Shankar from India versus Disinfo has asked - "during Afghan leader Abdullah Abdullah meeting with PM Modi today, did issue on Taliban figured?" Sandeep Dikshit from Tribune has asked - "could you give an idea about Abdullah Abdullah's talks here? Do Indian calculation change after Trump's announcement to have no boots on ground in Afghanistan by Christmas?" Suhasani from The Hindu has asked - "what was discussed during Dr Abdullah's meeting with Prime Minister? Did Dr. Abdullah ask for India to directly engage the Taliban in order to take forward the reconciliation process and has India's position on not recognizing and engaging with the Taliban change?"

Shri Anurag Srivastava, Official Spokesperson: You would have seen the press release that we issued some time ago and as was mentioned, there was a discussion on bilateral and regional issues of interest. Dr Abdullah Abdullah briefed Prime Minister on the Afghan peace process and on the ongoing talks in Doha and PM reiterated our commitment towards sustainable peace and prosperity in Afghanistan and welcomed efforts towards a comprehensive and permanent ceasefire in Afghanistan. As regards other issues which were discussed, the bilateral relations, including India's development cooperation with Afghanistan, where in Dr Abdullah Abdullah appreciated our development commitment of US\$ 3 billion, under which projects have been undertaken benefiting Afghans across all 34 provinces. Prime Minister during the meeting reaffirmed India's long-term commitment to further

Shri Anurag Srivastava, Official Spokesperson: Sandeep, we will make an announcement at an appropriate time. This is all I can say as of now.

Shri Yatin Patel, OSD (PR): Narendra Nath Mishra from Navbharat Times has asked - "H1 visa ko le kar America ke naye kanoon ke baad Bharat ke IT professionals par asar padne ki ashanka hai. Kya America ke samne Bharat is baare mein baat rakhega?" (Questioned in Hindi; Approximate translation) After the new US law regarding H1 visa, IT professionals of India are expected to be affected. Will India talk on this issue with America?

Shri Anurag Srivastava, Official Spokesperson: Narendra ji, aapko pata hoga ki people-to-people relationship jo hai Bharat aur US ke beech ke sambandhon ka bahut mahatvapurn hissa hai. Hum samay samay pe iske baare mein khaskar hamare professionals ke movement ke bare mein, H1B issues ke bare mein unse baatcheet karte aa rahe hain. Hum yeh issue har level pe raise karte aa rahe hain aur hum karte rahenge. (Answered in Hindi; Approximate translation) Narendra ji, you would know that the people to people relationship is a very important part of the relationship between India and US and we had been talking to them from time to time about it, especially about the movement of our professionals, on H1B issues. We have been raising this issue at every level and we will keep doing it.

Shri Yatin Patel, OSD (PR): [Redacted] Ext. set of question is on Chinese embassy's letter to media. Sidhant from WION has asked - "Chinese [Redacted] from yesterday issued a letter to Indian media saying they should follow One China policy. Any reaction by Indian side over Chinese Mission issuing dictates to Indian media?" Similar questions from Pranay Upadhyay from ABP News, Ranjit Kumar from Lakshak News, Suhasini from The Hindu.

Shri Anurag Srivastava, Official Spokesperson: Sidhant, I will say that there's a free media in India that reports on issues as it sees [Redacted] and more any further questions?

Shri Yatin Patel, OSD (PR): No, sir.

Shri Anurag Srivastava, Official Spokesperson: Thank you. So this concludes the briefing.

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Transcript of Virtual Weekly Media Briefing by the Official Spokesperson (15 October 2020)

October 16, 2020

Shri Anurag Srivastava, Official Spokesperson:

Namaskar and good evening.

Let me start this weekly virtual briefing with two announcements today.

First is a short update on the Vande Bharat Mission.

As on 15 October, 18.32 lakh Indians have been repatriated through different modes of the Vande Bharat Mission. Under Phase 7 of VBM, operational since 1 October 2020, 444 international flights have been operated from 18 countries. These include flights from among the 14 countries with which India has a bilateral 'air bubble' arrangements. These flights have reached 21 airports across India, repatriating an estimated 80,000 persons.

The second announcement that I have is about the first edition of lectures designed to introduce India to foreign diplomats posted in New Delhi. These lectures were inaugurated today by Foreign Secretary. They are called "Sushma Swaraj Lectures 2020", after our former External Affairs Minister, and this is the first time that we have had lecture series particularly for foreign diplomats posted in India, 45 foreign diplomats who have newly arrived to take up their assignments, are attending this "Sushma Swaraj Lectures 2020", which will give them an introduction to Indian history, politics, culture and economy. Now I'll move on to your questions and Yatin can you please take over.

Shri Yatin Patel, OSD (PR): Sir, the first set of question is on Two Plus Two. Shridhar from the Asian Age has asked - "could we have the dates for the Two Plus Two dialogue with the US? Are the US ministers travelling to India for this? Also, is the third defence pact BECA being signed during the dialogue?" Sandeep Dikshit from the Tribune has asked - "what are the dates for the Indo-US Two Plus Two?" Similar question has also been asked by Suhasini from The Hindu.

Shri Anurag Srivastava, Official Spokesperson: See, we look forward to holding the Two Plus Two ministerial dialogue in New Delhi at an early date and we will keep you updated on further details.

Shri Yatin Patel, OSD (PR): Next set of question is on Pakistan NSA's interview. Deviroopa from The Wire has asked - "has India sent a message conveying desire for conversation to Pakistan? If true at all, when was it done? Also, is Kashmir still a topic of dialogue with Pakistan? What does India think of Yusuf's demand that Kashmiris must also be present at the talks?" Nainima from The Print has asked - "recently in an interview to The Wire, Pakistan Prime Minister Special Assistant on National Security Division and Strategic Policy Planning, Mr Moeed Yusuf stated that India had expressed a desire for a conversation and they had put certain conditions. Can the MEA please confirm this?" Shailendra from News18 has asked - "Pakistan NSA Moeed Yusuf ne Bharat se baatcheet ke prastav milne ka dawa kiya hai. Kya Bharat ne koi bhi prastav rakha hai?" (Questioned in Hindi; Approximate translation): Pakistan NSA Moeed Yusuf has claimed to have received proposals for talks with India. Has India communicated any proposal?. Similar questions were asked by KB Naik from Sputnik, Suhaisni from Hindu, Rezaul from HT, Shankar from India vs

earlier that State has not taken permission from government for receiving foreign funds. Could you please clarify the position?"

Shri Anurag Srivastava, Official Spokesperson: Vasant, I have nothing further to add beyond what I told you last time.

Shri Yatin Patel, OSD (PR): Pushkar from the New Indian Express has asked - "China has said that India's infrastructure development in Ladakh and Arunachal Pradesh is the root cause of problems between the two countries. Will the MEA respond to the comment?" Similar questions by Madhurendra from News Nation and Manas from PTI.

Shri Anurag Srivastava, Official Spokesperson: The government of India has been focused on creating infrastructure in the country for improving the livelihood and economic welfare of its people. In this regard, government gives careful and specific attention to the improvement of infrastructure for the development of border areas, in order to facilitate the economic development of these areas, as also to meet India's strategic and security requirements. As for restoration of peace and tranquility in the India-China border areas, this is best done by scrupulously observing all relevant agreements in their entirety.

Shri Yatin Patel, OSD (PR): Brahma Prakash from Zee has asked - "Cheen jis tarah se kendrashasit pradesh Ladakh ko le kar baar baar apna rukh zahir kar raha hai aur uske punarghatan ko manne se inkaar kar raha hai. Isko Bharat kis tarah se dekh raha hai? Kya Taiwan ke prati Bharat ke rukh mein bhi badlav aa sakta hai?" (Questioned in Hindi; Approximate translation) The way China is repeatedly expressing its stand on the Union Territory of Ladakh and refusing to accept its reorganization, how is India looking at it? Can there be a change in India's attitude towards Taiwan as well? Sidhant from WION has asked - "China has again said it doesn't recognize Arunachal Pradesh and said the same for Ladakh, any reaction to that?"

Shri Anurag Srivastava, Official Spokesperson: See we have made our position on this very clear. Our position on this has always been clear and consistent. **The Union Territories of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh have been, are, and would remain an integral part of India.** China has no locus standi to comment on India's internal matters. We hope that countries will not comment on India's internal matters, as much as they expect the same of others.

Our position on Arunachal Pradesh has also been made clear several times. Arunachal Pradesh is an integral and inalienable part of India. This fact has also been clearly conveyed to the Chinese side on several occasions, including at the highest level.

Shri Yatin Patel, OSD (PR): Srinjoy from Times Now has asked - "the seventh round was on 12th October in Chushul. What are the takeaways? Has there been any forward movement?" Narendra Nath Mishra from Navbharat Times has asked - "Jab bhi Bharat-Cheen ke beech baatcheet ho rahi hoti hai, Cheen ki aur se bhadkane wala bayaan aa jata hai. Kya iske peeche Cheen ki koi mansha dikh rahi hai?" (Questioned in Hindi; Approximate translation) Whenever India is negotiating between China, a provocative statement comes from China, is there any intention of China behind it. Deviroopa from The Wire has asked - "will there be another round of Senior Commander level talks as there is no explicit mention of that in the press release unlike last time. Sidhant from WION has asked - "any plans for WMCC between India and China?" Similar questions by Madhurendra from News Nation, Suhasini from The Hindu, Nainima from The Print, and Elizabeth from the Live Mint.

Shri Anurag Srivastava, Official Spokesperson: To respond to your questions, I would like to draw your attention to the Joint Press Release issued after the 7th round of the Senior Commanders talks held on 12 October. This is the second joint press release issued after the one issued after the previous round. As indicated in the Press Release, the talks were positive and constructive. The two sides have a better understanding of each other's positions. Disengagement is a complex process that requires redeployment of troops by each side towards their regular posts on their respective sides of the LAC. To achieve this, the two sides will maintain the current momentum of communications based on the guidance of our leadership to not to turn differences into disputes and work towards a mutually acceptable solution for complete disengagement in all the friction areas along the Line of Actual Control and restoration of peace and tranquility in the India-China border areas.

Shri Anurag Srivastava, Official Spokesperson: Are there any further questions Yatin?

Shri Yatin Patel, OSD (PR): No Sir.

Shri Anurag Srivastava, Official Spokesperson: Thank you! So this concludes the weekly briefing.