

UN Peacekeeping Operations Ranking : @PKO Now! No. 3

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May 11, 2012

UN Peacekeeping Operations Ranking

On the UN Peacekeeping Operations website, there is a ranking of "Troops and Police Contributors." This shows the manpower contribution ranking by countries and is updated monthly.¹According to the latest figures as of the end of March 2012, Japan is ranked as the 38th (449 personnel) among 117 countries currently contributing to the UN Peacekeeping Operations; this includes Japan's contribution to Haiti, Timor-Leste and the Golan Heights, where the personnel have been deployed for some time, and also reflects the troops newly dispatched to South Sudan.

High Ranking Countries

Are you aware which countries are always ranked high? The answer is South Asian countries. According to the latest ranking as of the end of March 2012, Bangladesh is ranked as the 1st, sending 10,245 personnel, followed by Pakistan (9,401 personnel) and India (8,134 personnel.)²The sum of those personnel from these three countries amounts to 28% of all the peacekeeping forces in the world.

Take Bangladesh as an example. Currently it dispatches personnel to nine missions, namely MINURSO (West Sahara), MINUSTAH (Haiti), MONUSCO (DRC), UNAMID (Darfur, Sudan), UNIFIL (Lebanon), UNMIL (Liberia), UNMISS (South Sudan), UNMIT (Timor-Leste) and UNOCI (Cote d'Ivoire).³This accounts for 60% of all the Missions that the Department of Peacekeeping Operations deploys around the world. It can be said that Bangladesh not

only sends many personnel to the UN Peacekeeping Operations but also deploys them in various geographical areas in the world.

Other High Ranking Countries

The next high ranking countries are African countries such as Ethiopia and Nigeria as well as Middle Eastern countries including Egypt and Jordan. Latin American and South east Asian countries can be found in the next tier.

Contribution by Permanent Five

Given the fact that it is the Security Council that makes a decision to establish a Peacekeeping Mission, those so called "P5" countries (US, Russia, UK, France and China) which possess veto power, bear additional financial burden. Their share of PKO budget is, in principle, higher than those of other UN members.⁴⁵

Among "P5" countries, China's share has gone up from 3.147% in 2009 to 3.9390% in 2010 even though the financial contribution is not necessarily large in absolute terms.⁶ China is also ranked relatively high in the personnel ranking, that is the 16th. This is actually the highest personnel contribution among P5 countries.⁷

In other P5 countries, France is ranked as the 18th; then comes UK as the 47th, US as 56th, and Russia as 60th. We can see that as far as personnel contribution is concerned, P5 countries are not necessarily ranked high.

This time, we've looked at personnel contribution to Peacekeeping Operations with a focus on South Asian countries. In the next issue (scheduled as vol.7,) I would like to shed light on China, a neighboring country which has shown a remarkable increase in its contribution to Peacekeeping Operations.

End Notes

¹ United Nations Peacekeeping. Ranking of Military and Police Contributions to UN Operations. 31-Mar-12.
http://www.un.org/en/peacekeeping/contributors/2012/March12_2.pdf

² Ibid.

³ United Nations Peacekeeping. UN Mission's Summary detailed by Country.29-Feb-12.
http://www.un.org/en/peacekeeping/contributors/2012/March12_3.pdf

⁴ Ministry of Foreign Affairs, United Nations Regular Budget Scale of Assessment 2010-2012.
http://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/gaiko/jp_un/yosan.html

⁵ Ministry of Foreign Affairs, United Nations Peacekeeping Operations Budget Scale of Assessment 2008-2010.
http://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/gaiko/jp_un/pko_yosan.html

⁶ [4]op. cit.

⁷ [1]op. cit.