

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1023
TO BE ANSWERED ON 10.02.2022

INDIAN EXPATRIATES IMPRISONED ABROAD

1023. SHRI ABDUL WAHAB:

Will the Minister of **External Affairs** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has any data on Indian expatriates imprisoned, facing trial or convicted in Gulf countries;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, whether Government is considering to conduct a study on expatriates imprisoned abroad;
- (d) whether Government has any division in its missions abroad to extend adequate legal assistance to those who are facing trial or imprisoned;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) whether Government is willing to formulate any plan and sign any agreement with Gulf countries in expediting the release of undertrials in Gulf countries?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
[SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN]

(a) to (f) As per information available with the Ministry, the number of Indian prisoners, including undertrials, in jails of Gulf countries is as follows: United Arab Emirates (1663), Saudi Arabia (1363), Qatar (466), Kuwait (460), Bahrain (63), Oman (45).

The Government attaches the highest priority to the safety, security and well-being of Indians in foreign countries, including those in the foreign jails. Indian Missions / Posts abroad remain vigilant and closely monitor the incidents of Indian nationals detained/jailed. Apart from extending them all possible consular assistance, Indian Missions and Posts also assist in providing legal aid wherever needed. Missions and Posts also maintain a local panel of lawyers where Indian community is in sizeable numbers.
