

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT  
RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 721  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 08.02.2024**

**LABOUR EXPLOITATION IN VARIOUS COUNTRIES**

**721. SMT. P. T. USHA:**

**Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether Government is aware of reports of labourers including women being exploited and held without their consent in harrowing working conditions in various countries including Gulf countries and Europe who were lured under the promise of better wages and benefits;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof and action taken thereupon;**
- (c) whether Government has data concerning such cases being reported to various Embassies and consular offices in various countries; and**
- (d) if so, the details of countries from where maximum number of cases were reported, Nation-wise?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT  
(SHRI RAMESWAR TELI)**

**(a) & (b): Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) maintains the data in respect of Indian workers, holding Emigration Check Required (ECR) passports, proceeding for overseas employment through e-Migrate portal to 18 ECR category countries namely; Afghanistan, Bahrain, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Malaysia, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, South Sudan, Sudan, Syria, Thailand, United Arab Emirates and Yemen.**

**Government of India Missions and Posts abroad remain vigilant all the time and actively monitor and follow-up the grievance(s) received from the Indian nationals in foreign countries. The grievances are received and responded through various channels i.e. Emergency telephone number, Walk-ins, e-Mails, Social Media, 24x7 Multilingual Helpline and Open Houses etc.**

**Contd..2/-**

**As soon as the information about a distressed Indian national is received by Indian Mission/Post abroad, it immediately gets in touch with the concerned Indian national, the local Foreign Office and other concerned local authorities, as the case may be, to ascertain the facts of the case and to confirm Indian national's welfare. Apart from extending all possible consular assistance to the Indian national in distress, Mission/Post also assist in providing legal aid wherever needed. On receipt of complaint from or on behalf of the emigrant, the same is taken up pro-actively with the concerned Foreign Employer (FE) and the work place of the aggrieved worker is also visited, if required.**

**Indian Missions/Posts regularly organize Open Houses and Consular Camps in remote areas to get the feedback from the Indian workers abroad and address their grievances, if any.**

**(c) & (d): As per the available data with Indian Missions/Posts in Gulf countries, total 33,252 complaints were received from Indian workers, including women, during the period March 2021 to December 2023. The country-wise break up is given in the table below;**

| <b>Country</b>              | <b>No. of Complaints Received</b> |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <b>Bahrain</b>              | <b>245</b>                        |
| <b>Kuwait</b>               | <b>16436</b>                      |
| <b>Oman</b>                 | <b>3953</b>                       |
| <b>Qatar</b>                | <b>891</b>                        |
| <b>Saudi Arabia</b>         | <b>2967</b>                       |
| <b>United Arab Emirates</b> | <b>8760</b>                       |
| <b>Total</b>                | <b>33,252</b>                     |

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