

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**

**LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO.295
TO BE ANSWERED ON 22.03.2017**

VIOLATIONS OF LABOUR LAWS

***295. SHRI MANSHANKAR NINAMA:
SHRI BHARAT SINGH:**

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has prepared any database of workers employed abroad including students and other persons residing in other countries and if so, the details thereof;**
- (b) whether the Government monitors the compliance of labour laws in consultations with the countries concerned and if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) whether the Government has received complaints from Indian workers in various countries regarding violation of labour laws and if so, the details thereof; and**
- (d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to provide assistance to Indians facing problems and the role of Indian Council of Overseas Employment (ICOE) in this regard?**

**ANSWER
THE MINISTER FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
(SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ)**

(a to (d) A statement is laid on the table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARA (a) to (d) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 295 REGARDING “VIOLATION OF LABOUR LAWS” FOR ANSWER ON 22.03.2017

The government maintains a database of workers of Emigration Check Required (ECR) category proceeding for overseas employment to the 18 notified ECR countries. Country-wise and State-wise details of ECR category emigrant workers for 2016 are enclosed at Annexure-I. As per inputs from Indian Missions and Posts abroad, there are over 30 million Overseas Indians. Country-wise details are enclosed at Annexure- II. The student module on the MADAD portal (Online Consular Service Management) has also been started from 15.07.2016 and 10523 students have been registered so far.

2. Complaints are received from Indian emigrant workers in ECR countries, from time to time, regarding violation of contractual terms, adverse working conditions, wage related issues, employer related problems, medical and insurance related problems and compensation/death claims. Amidst the ongoing economic downturn in the Gulf countries due to fall in crude oil prices, there are some reports of Indian workers being asked to leave before completion of their existing contracts. Instances of unpaid salaries for last few months have also been reported.

3. The government is working in close coordination with foreign governments to address concerns related to employment and welfare of Indian workers. Immediately on receipt of such complaints, the same are addressed by Indian Missions by taking them up with the concerned foreign authorities. Labour and Manpower Cooperation MoUs/Agreements are already in place with the six Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries, Jordan and Malaysia that provide the institutional framework to comprehensively discuss and review these matters.

4. The Indian Community Welfare Fund (ICWF), aimed at assisting Overseas Indian nationals abroad in times of distress on a means tested basis in the most deserving cases, has already been extended to all Indian Missions and Posts abroad. The ‘MADAD’ portal, an important initiative of the Ministry, is an effort to extend a helping hand to Indians abroad requiring consular assistance. It enables online logging and tracking of grievances including by emigrant workers and their family members.

As of now, 19,775 grievances have been registered on the portal and 15094 grievances have been resolved so far. The E-Migrate system provides the government a comprehensive and online database of emigrants, Missions, Recruiting Agents, Foreign Employers and Insurance Agencies and is helpful in making the whole emigration cycle faster, transparent and allows authentication/verification of credentials of all the stakeholders.

5. Indian Worker Resource Centres (IWRCs) have been setup that provide guidance and counselling on all matters pertaining to overseas Indian workers. IWRCs in Dubai (UAE), Riyadh and Jeddah (Saudi Arabia) and Kuala Lumpur are already functional while another one in Sharjah (UAE) will be operational soon. Shelter homes for distressed Indian nationals have been setup in Bahrain, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar, UAE and Malaysia. Missions in Gulf countries also conduct Open Houses on a regular basis where workers can convey their grievances. Some Missions have established 24x7 help lines and Toll Free help lines. The multi-lingual 24X7 Helpline of Overseas Workers Resource Centre (OWRC) in Gurugram, Haryana provides information and guidance on all matters and problems pertaining to overseas employment of Indian nationals. Migrant Resource Centres have also been setup in Kochi, Hyderabad Gurugram, Chennai and Lucknow.

6. The India Centre for Migration (formerly Indian Council for Overseas Employment) serves as a research think-tank of the Ministry on all matters related to international migration and is assisting in policy-making on matters related to emigrating workers and promoting overseas employment of Indians.

7. The government has been making all possible efforts towards ensuring welfare and safeguarding the interests of Indian nationals abroad.

14	HIMACHAL PRADESH	277	153	133	101	84	19	4	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	774
15	GOA	173	101	393	36	120	10	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	834
16	MADHYA PRADESH	222	587	371	27	107	7	9	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1334
17	DELHI	413	862	199	83	155	32	15	22	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	1783
18	HARYANA	642	532	279	120	153	52	179	6	0	0	0	0	15	0	0	0	0	0	1978
19	TRIPURA	450	1341	923	12	26	4	148	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2905
20	UTTARAKHAND	545	1927	241	101	395	33	32	9	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	3286
21	ASSAM	575	2284	853	61	76	6	20	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3876
22	JAMMU & KASHMIR	231	3032	890	113	48	18	14	17	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	4364
23	GUJARAT	1161	710	597	523	1402	118	40	7	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	4559
24	JHARKHAND	1430	1703	556	297	595	51	271	21	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4924
25	KARNATAKA	1738	1761	902	522	1384	117	31	17	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6472
26	MAHARASHTRA	2990	2739	1530	1431	1447	228	48	31	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	10445
27	ORISSA	5380	1761	2206	1053	1423	213	152	130	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	12320
28	TELANGANA	10776	4933	1828	768	4004	2343	161	263	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	25079
29	KERALA	6314	8561	2331	892	6309	555	167	34	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	25166
30	ANDHRA PRADESH	5771	3571	13232	612	2827	561	360	70	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	27005
31	PUNJAB	17140	3003	4095	3255	2268	1002	536	453	0	0	0	0	109	0	0	0	0	0	31861
32	RAJASTHAN	14255	7457	5296	1742	4904	1380	59	78	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	35172
33	TAMIL NADU	16832	5700	5765	2190	6640	624	4558	71	0	0	0	0	161	0	0	0	0	0	42541
34	WEST BENGAL	9393	28664	6293	3658	2531	710	2011	86	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	53348
35	BIHAR	25571	24005	7828	6371	10587	1117	530	374	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	76384
36	UTTAR PRADESH	41210	59799	15480	6603	15652	2734	1207	1044	0	0	0	0	8	0	0	0	0	0	143737
	Total	163731	165356	72402	30619	63224	11964	10604	2742	0	0	1	1	316	0	0	0	0	0	520960

NOTES: AE-United Arab Emirates;KW-Kuwait;AF- Afghanistan;MY-Malaysia;LB-Lebanon;BH-Bahrain;ID-Indonesia;IQ-Iraq;JO-Jordan;OM-Oman;QA-Qatar;SA-Saudi Arabia;SD-Sudan;SY-Syria;TH-Thailand;YE-Yemen;LY-Libya;SS-South Sudan.

ANNEXURE - II

Population of Overseas Indians				
SI. No.	Country	Non-Resident Indians (NRIs) (2016)	Persons of Indian Origin (PIOs) (2016)	Overseas Indians (2016)
1	Afghanistan	2,960	9	2,969
2	Albania	50	-	50
3	Algeria	3,770	17	3,787
4	Andorra	160	0	160
5	Angola	1,500	2,500	4,000
6	Anguilla	15	5	20
7	Antigua & Barbuda	250	300	550
8	Argentina	600	1,800	2,400
9	Armenia	1,465	23	1,488
10	Aruba	-	1,000	1,000
11	Australia	2,41,000	2,55,000	4,96,000
12	Austria and Montenegro	15,500	4,500	20,000
13	Azerbaijan	1,694	83	1,777
14	Bahamas	300	100	400
15	Bahrain	3,12,918	3,257	3,16,175
16	Bangladesh	10,385	6	10,391
17	Barbados	100	2,114	2,214
18	Belarus	280	60	340
19	Belgium	10,651	8,000	18,651
20	Belize	200	1,300	1,500
21	Benin	1,563	0	1,563
22	Bhutan	60,000	0	60,000
23	Bolivia	50	10	60
24	Bonaire & Smaller Islands	-	200	200
25	Bosnia & Herzegovina	23	1	24
26	Botswana	9,000	3,000	12,000
27	Brazil	832	393	1,225
28	British Virgin Islands	75	3	78
29	Brunei Darussalam	11,500	98	11,598
30	Bulgaria	100	62	162
31	Burkina Faso	200	5	205
32	Burundi	465	35	500
33	Cambodia	1,400	10	1,410
34	Cameroon	245	0	245
35	Canada	1,84,320	8,31,865	10,16,185
36	Cape Verde Islands	20	0	20
37	Cayman Islands	1,500	100	1,600
38	Central African Republic	10	0	10
39	Chad	120	0	120
40	Chile	1,400	1,300	2,700
41	China	55,500	520	56,020
42	China (Hong Kong)	45,000	6,430	51,430
43	China (Taiwan)	2,444	128	2,572
44	Colombia	112	106	218
45	Comoros	30	200	230
46	Congo (Dem. Rep. of)	9,000	25	9,025
47	Congo (Republic of)	350	8	358
48	Cook Island	5	200	205
49	Costa Rica	230	20	250
50	Cote d'Ivoire (Ivory)	1,500	0	1,500

	Coast)			
51	Croatia	42	38	80
52	Cuba	500	200	700
53	Curacao	-	1,500	1,500
54	Cyprus	5,730	128	5,858
55	Czech Republic	1,800	600	2,400
56	Denmark	8,100	3,100	11,200
57	Djibouti	350	0	350
58	Dominica (Commonwealth of)	50	500	550
59	Dominican Republic	100	75	175
60	East Timor	70	0	70
61	Ecuador	43	47	90
62	Egypt	3,500	265	3,765
63	El Salvador	3	3	6
64	Equatorial Guinea	250	0	250
65	Eritrea	1,000	3	1,003
66	Estonia	450	50	500
67	Ethiopia	5,250	23	5,273
68	Fiji	1,000	3,13,798	3,14,798
69	Finland	5,500	1,500	7,000
70	France	19,000	90,000	1,09,000
71	France (Reunion Island)	250	2,80,000	2,80,250
72	France (Guadeloupe, St. Martinique, Mayotte)	420	66,800	67,220
73	Gabon	100	10	110
74	Gambia	600	15	615
75	Georgia	3,228	8	3,236
76	Germany	76,093	67,029	1,43,122
77	Ghana	10,000	0	10,000
78	Greece	12,319	181	12,500
79	Grenada	200	5,000	5,200
80	Guatemala	84	33	117
81	Guinea (Republic of)	700	0	700
82	Guinea Bissau	100	3	103
83	Guyana	300	2,97,493	2,97,793
84	Haiti	580	0	580
85	Holy See	NA	0	0
86	Honduras	13	2	15
87	Hungary	902	98	1,000
88	Iceland	225	80	305
89	Indonesia	7,500	1,00,000	1,07,500
90	Iran	4,000	190	4,190
91	Iraq	10,000	0	10,000
92	Ireland	17,000	9,000	26,000
93	Israel	12,467	85,000	97,467
94	Italy	1,72,301	25,000	1,97,301
95	Jamaica	4,000	70,000	74,000
96	Japan	28,047	670	28,717
97	Jordan	11,000	82	11,082
98	Kazakhstan	5,500	250	5,750
99	Kenya	20,000	60,000	80,000
100	Kiribati	-	50	50
101	Korea (DPR)	12	0	12
102	Korea (Republic of)	10,869	310	11,179
103	Kuwait	9,21,666	1,594	9,23,260

104	Kyrgyzstan	4,786	28	4,814
105	Laos, PDR	425	75	500
106	Latvia	604	20	624
107	Lebanon	8,000	30	8,030
108	Lesotho (Kingdom of)	500	1,000	1,500
109	Liberia	3,000	0	3,000
110	Libya	1,500	2	1,502
111	Liechtenstein (Principality of)	5	5	10
112	Lithuania	250	50	300
113	Luxembourg	500	500	1,000
114	Macedonia	10	5	15
115	Madagascar	2,500	15,000	17,500
116	Malaysia	2,44,274	27,42,000	29,86,274
117	Malawi	2,500	8,000	10,500
118	Maldives	25,000	108	25,108
119	Mali	212	0	212
120	Malta	300	65	365
121	Marshall Islands (Republic of)	14	1	15
122	Mauritania	200	0	200
123	Mauritius	10,500	8,84,000	8,94,500
124	Mexico	1,750	250	2,000
125	Micronesia	1	0	1
126	Moldova	190	10	200
127	Monaco	30	40	70
128	Mongolia	150	5	155
129	Montserrat	40	200	240
130	Morocco	300	20	320
131	Mozambique	1,500	20,000	21,500
132	Myanmar	8,337	20,00,000	20,08,337
133	Namibia	200	59	259
134	Nauru	6	0	6
135	Nepal	6,00,000	0	6,00,000
136	Netherlands	25,000	2,00,000	2,25,000
137	Netherlands Antilles	-	2,700	2,700
138	New Zealand	75,000	1,25,000	2,00,000
139	Nicaragua	6	6	12
140	Niger	150	0	150
141	Nigeria	40,000	35	40,035
142	Norway	7,718	12,300	20,018
143	Oman	7,95,082	919	7,96,001
144	Pakistan	0	0	0
145	Palau (Republic of)	15	0	15
146	Palestine (PLO)	65	0	65
147	Panama	4,000	9,000	13,000
148	Papua New Guinea	1,400	100	1,500
149	Paraguay	200	400	600
150	Peru	400	50	450
151	Philippines	1,00,000	15,000	1,15,000
152	Poland	4,000	600	4,600
153	Portugal	6,935	65,000	71,935
154	Qatar	6,00,000	Nil	6,00,000
155	Romania	500	210	710
156	Russian Federation	28,610	1,950	30,560
157	Rwanda	2,940	60	3,000

158	Samoa	40	30	70
159	San Marino	NA	0	0
160	Sao Tome and Principe (Rep. of)	50	0	50
161	Saudi Arabia	30,50,000	3,567	30,53,567
162	Senegal	380	31	411
163	Serbia	46	6	52
164	Seychelles	4,000	6,000	10,000
165	Sierra Leone	900	50	950
166	Singapore	3,50,000	3,00,000	6,50,000
167	Slovak Republic	130	50	180
168	Slovenia	80	50	130
169	Solomon Islands	20	0	20
170	Somalia	100	0	100
171	South Africa	60,000	15,00,000	15,60,000
172	Spain	35,308	20,000	55,308
173	Sri Lanka	14,000	16,00,000	16,14,000
174	St. Kitts and Nevis	250	500	750
175	St. Lucia	250	5,005	5,255
176	St. Martin	-	5,300	5,300
177	St. Vincent & the Grenadines	50	3,000	3,050
178	Sudan	3,400	100	3,500
179	South Sudan	500	Nil	500
180	Suriname	150	1,54,321	1,54,471
181	Swaziland	500	500	1,000
182	Sweden	12,500	9,000	21,500
183	Switzerland	13,295	6,738	20,033
184	Syria	107	0	107
185	Tajikistan	590	20	610
186	Tanzania	10,000	50,000	60,000
187	Thailand	20,000	1,75,000	1,95,000
188	Togo	500	10	510
189	Tonga	6	40	46
190	Trinidad & Tobago	1,800	5,55,000	5,56,800
191	Tunisia	121	11	132
192	Turkey	847	64	911
193	Turkmenistan	309	-	309
194	Turks & Caicos Islands	200	35	235
195	Tuvalu	-	50	50
196	Uganda	23,500	6,500	30,000
197	Ukraine	5,737	317	6,054
198	UAE	28,00,000	3,751	28,03,751
199	UK	3,25,000	15,00,000	18,25,000
200	USA	12,80,000	31,80,000	44,60,000
201	Uruguay	500	30	530
202	Uzbekistan	650	47	697
203	Vanuatu	10	800	810
204	Venezuela	75	40	115
205	Vietnam	2,600	2,120	4,720
206	Yemen	400	10,000	10,400
207	Zambia	5,000	18,000	23,000
208	Zimbabwe	500	9,000	9,500
	TOTAL	1,30,08,012	1,78,35,407	3,08,43,419
