GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1226 TO BE ANSWERED ON 25.07.2018

SAFE RETURN OF INDIANS

†1226. SHRI PASHUPATI NATH SINGH: DR. RAVINDRA KUMAR RAY:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps being taken by the Government to ensure safe return of Indian citizens of Jharkhand State stuck in other countries like Afghanistan and Saudi Arabia; and
- (b) the number of such labourers/employees from Jharkhand, kidnapped or became victim of exploitation in foreign countries during the last two years along with the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS [GEN. (DR) V. K. SINGH (RETD)]

(a) & (b) The Government of India accords the highest priority to ensure the safety and well-being of Indian nationals abroad. The Government has facilitated return of Indian nationals stuck due to distress situations in countries like Afghanistan and Saudi Arabia, which includes people from the State of Jharkhand.

As per information available with the Ministry, 125 Indian labourers/employees from Jharkhand [4 in Afghanistan, 1 in Ethiopia, 1 in Iraq, 86 in Malaysia, 31 in Saudi Arabia and 2 from Malawi] were repatriated from 2016 to 2018 (till 20.07.2018). The Indian Mission/Posts provided all required consular assistance to the persons and facilitated their return to India.
