GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.668 TO BE ANSWERED ON 26.06.2019

DEATH OF INDIANS ABROAD

668. SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether hundreds of people from Andhra Pradesh went to Gulf countries for work reportedly died in the last three years and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (b) whether the situation is alarming in countries like Saudi Arabia where more than 450 people belonging to AP died in the last three years and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to protect and save Indian Citizens in Gulf countries?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

[SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN]

- (a) & (b) A compilation showing the total number of deaths of people from Andhra Pradesh for each of the Gulf countries during the last three years is provided in Annexure. A large number of deaths of Indian nationals in the Gulf countries can be attributed to natural causes, medical illnesses etc. Some deaths are also reported due to suicides, accidents at work sites and road accidents.
- (c) The Ministry of External Affairs and our Missions/Posts in the Gulf, accord high priority to the welfare and well being of Indian nationals especially of Indian workers who constitute a large proportion of expatriate Indians in the region.

In order to prevent workers' deaths such as suicides, road accidents etc. in Gulf countries, awareness campaigns are conducted by the Missions/Posts through labour camps organised by Pravasi Bharatiya Seva Kendras (PBSK) in collaboration with the Indian Missions/Posts. Indian officials work proactively to alleviate and resolve the difficulties being faced by Indian workers such as excessive working hours, inadequacy of medical facilities, excessive exposure to heat and sun stroke etc. Anyone having any difficulty can approach Community Welfare Wing in getting his problems addressed promptly.

In Gulf countries where there are large numbers of Indian workers, our Missions and Posts have specialized Community Welfare Wings and Labour Wings. In addition, the Government has launched an online portal called 'MADAD' for addressing the grievances of Indian nationals abroad. The MADAD Portal is regularly monitored in our Missions/Posts at various levels, thus giving high priority to grievances of Indian nationals.

Annexure

S. No.	Name of Country	Number of Indians from Andhra Pradesh who died in Gulf countries in last three years
1.	Bahrain	78
2.	Kuwait	488
3.	Oman	153
4.	Qatar	108
5.	Saudi Arabia	478
6.	United Arab Emirates	351
	Total	1656
