

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-3776**  
ANSWERED ON- 11/08/2023

**INDIAN CITIZENS IN VARIOUS COUNTRIES**

3776. DR. KALANIDHI VEERASWAMY

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :-

- (a) the details of Indian citizens currently employed in various countries, Country-wise;
- (b) the top five countries with the highest number of Indian workers and their respective industries;
- (c) the details of individuals from Tamil Nadu who are currently employed abroad;
- (d) the steps taken by the government to support Tamil workers employed overseas; and
- (e) whether there are any specific initiatives to address the unique challenges faced by Tamil workers abroad and if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
(SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN)

(a) As per the available data, there are around 13 million Indian nationals abroad who include labourers, professionals, and experts. The number of Indians living abroad country-wise (including employed), is enclosed as Annexure I.

(b) Ministry maintains the data in respect of Indian workers, holding Emigration Check Required (ECR) passports, proceeding for overseas employment through e-Migrate portal to any of the 18 ECR countries. Top five countries with the highest number of Indian workers are tabulated below. Ministry does not maintain industry wise data of Indians abroad:

Sr. No.	Name of the country	Approx. number of Indians in lakhs
1.	United Arab Emirates	35.54
2.	Saudi Arabia	22.19
3.	Kuwait	8.29
4.	Qatar	8.00
5.	Oman	5.30

(c) The details of Emigration Clearance issued to workers from Tamil Nadu country wise during 2022 is enclosed as Annexure-II.

(d & e) Government of India has robust mechanism to monitor working conditions and grievance redressal of all Indian workers abroad, including from Tamil Nadu. Our Missions and Posts abroad remain vigilant all the time and actively monitor and follow each type of grievance 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. To enable the aggrieved Indian national to online register his/her grievances, the Government has established Portals such as MADAD and e-Migrate. Pravasi Bharatiya Sahayata Kendras (PBSK) have been set up in Dubai (UAE), Riyadh, Jeddah (Kingdom of Saudi Arabia) and Kuala Lumpur (Malaysia) to provide guidance and counselling to Indian workers abroad on all matters. There are dedicated Labour Wing in all the Indian Missions in Gulf Countries.

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. 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. The complaints pertaining to employment issues are also taken up with the local Labour Department and other relevant authority of the host country for prompt redressal.

The Missions/Posts utilize the Indian Community Welfare Fund (ICWF) from time to time to provide financial and legal assistance to Indian national in distress abroad on a 'means tested basis'. Under ICWF, the major assistance includes Boarding and Lodging, Air Passage to India, Legal Assistance, Emergency Medical Care, Transportation of Mortal Remains to India, and Payment of Small Fines and Penalties.

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<b>Data of Indians (including workers) residing abroad</b>		
<b>Sl.No.</b>	<b>Country</b>	<b>2022</b>
1.	Afghanistan	3087
2.	Albania	50
3.	Algeria	5700
4.	Andorra	50
5.	Angola	2500
6.	Anguilla	30
7.	Ankara	1278
8.	Antigua & Barbuda	220
9.	Argentina	800
10.	Armenia	1477
11.	Aruba	600
12.	Australia	241000
13.	Austria and Montenegro	13000
14.	Azerbaijan	953
15.	Bahamas	250
16.	Bahrain	323292
17.	Bangladesh	10385
18.	Barbados	600
19.	Belarus	854
20.	Belgium	12386
21.	Belize	300
22.	Benin	1563
23.	Bhutan	60000
24.	Bolivia	50
25.	Bonaire & Smaller Islands	54
26.	Bosnia & Herzegovina	20
27.	Botswana	9000
28.	Brazil	4729
29.	British Virgin Islands	50
30.	Brunei Darussalam	11500
31.	Bulgaria	250

32.	Burkina Faso	200
33.	Burundi	465
34.	Cambodia	1500
35.	Cameroon	800
36.	Canada	178410
37.	Cape Verde Islands	20
38.	Cayman Islands	1500
39.	Central African Republic	100
40.	Chad	120
41.	Chile	1530
42.	China	90137
43.	Colombia	450
44.	Comoros	30
45.	Congo (Dem. Rep. of)	10000
46.	Congo (Rep. Of )	590
47.	Cook Island	5
48.	Costa Rica	1011
49.	Cote d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast)	1500
50.	Croatia	82
51.	Cuba	600
52.	Curacao	700
53.	Cyprus	7254
54.	Czech Republic	4590
55.	Denmark	12685
56.	Djibouti	500
57.	Dominica (Commonwealth of)	15
58.	Dominica Republic	100
59.	East Timor	100
60.	Ecuador	300
61.	Egypt	3950
62.	El Salvador	14
63.	Equatorial Guinea	250
64.	Eritrea	300
65.	Estonia	741
66.	Ethiopia	5500

67.	Fiji	1400
68.	Finland	5652
69.	France	19000
70.	France (Reunion Island)	300
71.	France (Guadeloupe, Martinique, St. Martin)	420
72.	Gabon	1100
73.	Gambia	700
74.	Georgia	3192
75.	Germany	1,42,585
76.	Ghana	10000
77.	Greece	12300
78.	Grenada	200
79.	Guatemala	50
80.	Guinea (Republic of)	700
81.	Guinea Bissau	100
82.	Guyana	600
83.	Haiti	580
84.	Honduras	15
85.	Hungary	1026
86.	Iceland	257
87.	Indonesia	8500
88.	Iran	4000
89.	Iraq	18000
90.	Ireland	15000
91.	Israel	12467
92.	Italy	157695
93.	Jamaica	5000
94.	Japan	37933
95.	Jordan	20569
96.	Kazakhstan	6785
97.	Kenya	20000
98.	Korea (DPR)	15
99.	Korea (Republic of)	13236
100.	Kuwait	1028274

101.	Kyrgyzstan	11200
102.	Laos, PDR	450
103.	Latvia	760
104.	Lebanon	8500
105.	Lesotho (Kingdom of )	1500
106.	Liberia	1500
107.	Liechtenstein (Principality of )	5
108.	Lithuania	1000
109.	Luxembourg	2331
110.	Macedonia	7
111.	Madagascar	2500
112.	Malaysia	227950
113.	Malawi	2500
114.	Maldives	25000
115.	Mali	436
116.	Malta	4850
117.	Marshall Islands (Republic of)	14
118.	Mauritania	150
119.	Mauritius	10500
120.	Mexico	6000
121.	Micronesia	35
122.	Moldova	600
123.	Monaco	30
124.	Mongolia	150
125.	Montserrat	40
126.	Morocco	250
127.	Mozambique	2300
128.	Myanmar	9207
129.	Namibia	200
130.	Nauru	20
131.	Nepal	600000
132.	Netherlands	40000
133.	Netherlands Antilles	2581
134.	New Zealand	80000
135.	Nicaragua	39

136.	Niger	150
137.	Nigeria	40000
138.	Niue	9
139.	Norway	7732
140.	Oman	779351
141.	Palau (Republic of)	27
142.	Palestine (PLO)	20
143.	Panama	4000
144.	Papua New Guinea	2900
145.	Paraguay	200
146.	Peru	399
147.	Philippines	105000
148.	Poland	10162
149.	Portugal	11393
150.	Qatar	745775
151.	Romania	1741
152.	Russian Federation	31354
153.	Rwanda	2940
154.	Samoa	21
155.	Sao Tome and Principe (Rep. of)	50
156.	Saudi Arabia (Kingdom of)	2592166
157.	Senegal	500
158.	Serbia	303
159.	Seychelles	5200
160.	Sierra Leone	900
161.	Singapore	350000
162.	Slovak Republic	500
163.	Slovenia	126
164.	Solomon Islands	50
165.	Somalia	100
166.	South Africa	60000
167.	Spain	49084
168.	Sri Lanka	14000
169.	St. Kitts and Nevis	500
170.	St. Lucia	550

171.	St. Martin	2171
172.	St. Vincent & the Grenadines	50
173.	Sudan	1500
174.	South Sudan	1100
175.	Suriname	205
176.	Swaziland	1000
177.	Sweden	15349
178.	Switzerland	17403
179.	Syria	94
180.	Tajikistan	1500
181.	Tanzania	10000
182.	Thailand	20000
183.	Togo	500
184.	Tonga	6
185.	Trinidad & Tobago	1800
186.	Tunisia	121
187.	Turkey	1609
188.	Turkmenistan	240
189.	Turks & Caicos Islands	200
190.	Uganda	23500
191.	UAE	3419875
192.	UK	351000
193.	USA	1280000
194.	Uruguay	570
195.	Uzbekistan	350
196.	Vanuatu	10
197.	Venezuela	50
198.	Vietnam	5000
199.	Zambia	6000
200.	Zimbabwe	500
	<b>Total</b>	<b>13601239</b>

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**Annexure-II**

<b>Country wise Emigration Clearance (EC) data for the workers from the State of Tamil Nadu during 2022</b>	
<b>Country</b>	<b>2022</b>
UNITED ARAB EMIRATES	2269
SAUDI ARABIA	6888
MALAYSIA	3953
KUWAIT	5218
OMAN	3001
QATAR	1705
BAHRAIN	456
JORDAN	50
IRAQ	13
LEBANON	3
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>23556</b>

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