GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1092 TO BE ANSWERED ON 03.12.2021

DETAINED MIGRANT LABOURERS

†1092. SHRI RAHUL KASWAN:

Will the Ministry of External Affairs be please to state:

- (a) the number of Indian migrant labourers detained in eighteen nations of West Asia at present indicating the reasons for their detention, country-wise;
- (b) the number of complaints country-wise received by the Indian Missions in those countries regarding migrant labourers; and
- (c) the action taken by the Indian Mission in this regard?

ANSWER THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS [SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN]

- (a) About 3493 Indian migrant labourers are presently detained in West Asian countries on charges of accident, murder, cheque fraud, drug trafficking, human trafficking, sexual offence, robbery, illegal stay, financial embezzlement, drunken driving, assault, bribery, kidnapping, forgery etc. The list of country wise number of Indian Migrant Labourers detained is enclosed at Annexure-I.
- (b) About 19200 complaints were received by the Indian Missions / Posts regarding migrant labourers. The list of country-wise number of complaints received is enclosed at Annexure-II.

(c) The Indian Missions/Posts make all possible efforts to help Indian migrant labourers in distress, through measures such as providing boarding and lodging, air ticket for repatriation to India, emergency medical help and legal assistance from Indian Community Wefare Fund (ICWF). The officials from Missions and Posts regularly visit Indian nationals imprisoned in jails and also make efforts to get the imprisoned Indian nationals released from foreign jails, wherever possible, by approaching the concerned Government auithorities of the host countries. On their release, Missions and Posts facilitate in getting their travel documents for their return to India. Moreover, Missions and Posts have 24X7 helplines and organise Open House for all Indian nationals to address their grievances. Awareness campaigns are organised to educate the Indian workers about local laws. Pravasi Bharatiya Sahayata Kendras (PBSK) established in Jeddah, Riyadh and Dubai provide assistance to distressed Indian nationals including legal and psychological counseling.

Annexure-I

Country Wise Number of Indian Migrant Labourers detained

	Country	Number of detainees
SI		
No.		
1.	Bahrain	99
2.	Iraq	5
3.	Israel	0
4.	Jordan	14
5.	Kuwait	210
6.	Lebanon	4
7.	Oman	46
8.	Palestine	0
9.	Qatar	497
10.	Saudi Arabia	1084
11.	Syria	0
12.	United Arab Emirates	1533
13.	Yemen	1
Total		3493

Annexure-II

Country-wise complaints received in Missions/Posts

	Country	Number of Complaints
SI	_	
No.		
1.	Bahrain	275
2.	Iraq	60
3.	Israel	0
4.	Jordan	8
5.	Kuwait	3655
6.	Lebanon	15
7.	Oman	810
8.	Palestine	0
9.	Qatar	3923
10.	Saudi Arabia	6248
11.	Syria	0
12.	United Arab Emirates	4206
13.	Yemen	0
Total		19200
