

Government of India
Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs

LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO.*47
To be answered on 2nd December, 2015

Database of Indians Abroad

***47. SHRI C.R. PATIL:**

SHRI MAHEISH GIRRI:

Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

प्रवासी भारतीय कार्य मंत्री

- (a) whether any database of Indians including workers, students, etc. working in foreign countries is maintained and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government monitors the compliance of labour laws in letter and spirit in consultation with these countries;
- (c) if so, the details in this regard along with the complaints received by the Government from various countries regarding violation of labour laws; and
- (d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to provide assistance to such Indians in distress along with the role and achievement of Indian Council for Overseas Employment (ICOE) in this regard?

ANSWER
MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS
SMT.SUSHMA SWARAJ

(a) to (d): A statement is placed on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.*47 FOR 02.12.2015 REGARDING "DATABASE OF INDIANS ABROAD"

(a): A database of Indians who require Emigration Check prior to emigration to 18 ECR Countries for employment is available under the e-Migrate system, since its operationalization. This database is appropriately accessible to the stakeholders concerned. The data on estimated country-wise population of Non-Resident Indians (NRIs) and Persons of Indian Origin (PIOs) is at Annexure-I. No database of students studying abroad is maintained.

(b) & (c): As per reports received from Missions in twelve ECR countries in November, 2015, 7432 complaints on different aspects were received by them in 2015. Details are at the Annexure-II. Most of these complaint were addressed by the Indian Missions by taking them up with the concerned foreign authorities. Complaints pertaining to employment were taken up by the Indian Missions with the concerned foreign employer/ Labour officials in that country.

Government of Indian has signed MoUs with 6 Gulf countries namely UAE, Qatar, Kuwait, Oman, Bahrain, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and Malaysia to provide, inter-alia, that the host country will take measures for protection and welfare of the workers in organized sector and the recruitment and terms of employment will be in conformity with the laws of both the countries.

These MoUs are renewed/ signed afresh, from time to time during which process any modifications are duly considered for inclusion.

(d): The Government of India has set up Indian Community Welfare Fund (ICWF) in the Indian Missions abroad to meet contingency expenditure incurred by them for carrying out various welfare activities for overseas Indian citizens who are in distress. The objectives of the ICWF include:-

- i) Boarding and lodging for distressed Overseas Indians in need;**
- ii) Extending emergency medical care to the Overseas Indians in need;**
- iii) Providing air passage to stranded Overseas Indians in need;**
- iv) Providing initial legal assistance to the Overseas Indians in deserving cases;**
- v) Expenditure on incidentals and for airlifting the mortal remains to India or local cremation/burial of the deceased Overseas Indians in such cases where the sponsor is unable or unwilling to do so as per the contract and the family is unable to meet the cost;**
- vi) Providing the payment of penalties in respect of Indian nationals for illegal stay in the host country where prima facie the worker is not at fault;**
- vii) Providing the payment of small fines/penalties for the release of Indian nationals in jail/detention centre.**

The Ministry has set up a 24X7 helpline 'Overseas Workers Resource Centre' (OWRC) in Gurgaon, Haryana which provides information and guidance on all matters and problems pertaining to overseas employment of Indian nationals. Indian Workers Resource

Centre (IWRC) set up in Dubai by Embassy of India, in UAE, provides guidance and counseling on all matters pertaining to overseas Indian workers in UAE. Shelter homes for Indians in distress have been set up in Malaysia, UAE, Qatar, Kuwait, Bahrain and Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. These shelter homes provide free boarding and lodging to distressed Indians pending their repatriation.

Government of India have also started 24x7 Helpline on 'Madad' for lodging the grievances of the emigrants, which are attended to on priority basis.

ICOE, renamed as India Centre for Migration (ICM) in 2013, was set-up in 2008. It is a research think tank of the Ministry and provides research and policy inputs to Ministry on various issues related to migration and overseas employment of Indian migrant workers.

**Annexure referred to in reply to part (a) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No. *47 for
02.12.2015 POPUATION (Estimated) of Overseas Indians: COUNTRY WISE**

Sl. No.	Country/Overseas Territory	Non-Resident Indians (NRIs)	Persons of Indian Origin (PIOs)	Overseas Indians
1	Afghanistan	654	3	657
2	Albania	68	0	68
3	Algeria	1500	17	1517
4	Andorra	140	-	140
5	Angola	-	3000	3000
6	Anguilla	NA	NA	NA
7	Antigua & Barbuda	100	-	100
8	Argentina	1200	59	1259
9	Armenia	950	-	950
10	Aruba	-	1000	1000
11	Australia	251000	235000	486000
12	Austria and Montenegro	15500	4500	20000
13	Azerbaijan	550	30	580
14	Bahamas	500	20	520
15	Bahrain	350000	2500	352500
16	Bangladesh	10000	5	10005
17	Barbados	100	2100	2200
18	Belarus	177	34	211
19	Belgium	10651	8934	19585
20	Belize	200	1300	1500
21	Benin	1563	-	1563
22	Bhutan	5000	-	5000
23	Bolivia	200	16	216
24	Bonaire & Smaller Islands (Netherlands)	-	200	200
25	Bosnia & Herzegovina	50	15	65
26	Botswana	5000	3000	8000
27	Brazil	800	1200	2000
28	Brunei Darussalam	10000	80	10080
29	Bulgaria	200	40	240
30	Burkina Faso	200	5	205
31	Burundi	310	20	330
32	Cambodia	1500	10	1510
33	Cameroon	245	-	245
34	Canada	184320	831865	1016185

35	Cape Verde Islands	20	-	20
36	Cayman Islands (British Overseas Territory)	1000	30	1030
37	Central African Republic	10	-	10
38	Chad	120	-	120
39	Chile	800	1200	2000
40	China	48000	285	48285
41	China (Hong Kong)	22000	22000	44000
42	China (Taiwan)	2444	128	2572
43	Colombia	200	43	243
44	Comoros	-	250	250
45	Congo (Dem. Rep. of)	9000	25	9025
46	Congo (Republic of)	350	8	358
47	Cook Island	5	1000	1005
48	Costa Rica	73	34	107
49	Cote d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast)	1000	10	1010
50	Croatia	24	7	31
51	Cuba	233	2	235
52	Curacao (Netherlands)	-	1500	1500
53	Cyprus	4000	-	4000
54	Czech Republic	600	102	702
55	Denmark	6240	2562	8802
56	Djibouti	350	-	350
57	Dominica (Commonwealth of)	30	50	80
58	Dominican Republic	200	9	209
59	East Timor	70	-	70
60	Ecuador	43	21	64
61	Egypt	3600	105	3705
62	El Salvador	-	25	25
63	Equatorial Guinea	-	100	100
64	Eritrea	1300	0	1300
65	Estonia	50	-	50
66	Ethiopia	10000	15	10015
67	Fiji	1400	313798	315198
68	Finland	5000	-	5000
69	France	18000	90000	108000

70	France (Reunion Island)	200	300000	300200
71	France (Guadeloupe, St. Martinique, Mayotte)	420	66800	67220
72	Gabon	50	-	50
73	Gambia	600	15	615
74	Georgia	2000	-	2000
75	Germany	43000	67000	110000
76	Ghana	10000	-	10000
77	Greece	12000	181	12181
78	Grenada	400	3000	3400
79	Guatemala	100	11	111
80	Guinea (Republic of)	500	-	500
81	Guinea Bissau	100	3	103
82	Guyana	300	325000	325300
83	Haiti	580	1	581
84	Holy See (Vatican)	NA	NA	NA
85	Honduras	-	25	25
86	Hungary	350	95	445
87	Iceland	80	200	280
88	Indonesia	10600	100000	110600
89	Iran	3500	200	3700
90	Iraq	15000	-	15000
91	Ireland	17000	9000	26000
92	Israel	8500	80000	88500
93	Italy	162862	14400	177262
94	Jamaica	3700	70000	73700
95	Japan	22230	981	23211
96	Jordan	9940	60	10000
97	Kazakhstan	1500	25	1525
98	Kenya	20000	50000	70000
99	Kiribati	-	50	50
100	Korea (DPR)	6	1	7
101	Korea (Republic of)	10500	41	10541
102	Kuwait	758615	1096	759711
103	Kyrgyzstan	2000	27	2027
104	Lao, PDR	242	40	282
105	Latvia	230	20	250
106	Lebanon	10000	20	10020

107	Lesotho (Kingdom of)	500	1000	1500
108	Liberia	3000	5	3005
109	Libya	3200	36	3236
110	Liechtenstein (Principality of)	5	5	10
111	Lithuania	250	50	300
112	Luxembourg	525	500	1025
113	Macedonia	10	4	14
114	Madagascar	2500	17500	20000
115	Malaysia	150000	2000000	2150000
116	Malawi	2500	7500	10000
117	Maldives	22000	-	22000
118	Mali	200	-	200
119	Malta	300	6	306
120	Marshall Islands (Republic of)	14	1	15
121	Mauritania	200	-	200
122	Mauritius	10757	881137	891894
123	Mexico	1750	250	2000
124	Micronesia	1	-	1
125	Moldova	29	4	33
126	Mongolia	250	-	250
127	Montserrat (UK)	30	50	80
128	Morocco	500	300	800
129	Mozambique	1500	20000	21500
130	Myanmar	5576	2000000	2005576
131	Namibia	157	18	175
132	Nauru	2	-	2
133	Nepal	600000	-	600000
134	Netherlands	20000	205000	225000
135	Netherlands Antilles	-	2700	2700
136	New Zealand	45000	110000	155000
137	Nicaragua	-	25	25
138	Niger	75	-	75
139	Nigeria	25000	-	25000
140	Norway	5936	6988	12924
141	Oman	707850	880	708730
142	Pakistan	-	-	0
143	Palau (Republic of)	15	-	15
144	Palestine	75	10	85
145	Panama	2000	13000	15000

146	Papua New Guinea	1400	100	1500
147	Paraguay	450	10	460
148	Peru	400	62	462
149	Philippines	70000	1024	71024
150	Poland	2000	350	2350
151	Portugal	5657	65000	70657
152	Qatar	600000	677	600677
153	Romania	900	49	949
154	Russian Federation	14000	1630	15630
155	Rwanda	2500	15	2515
156	Samoa	40	30	70
157	San Marino	NA	NA	NA
158	Sao Tome and Principe (Rep. of)	NA	NA	0
159	Saudi Arabia	2800000	13	2800013
160	Senegal	380	15	395
161	Sarbia	25	19	44
162	Seychelles	3977	1333	5310
163	Sierra Leone	90	50	140
164	Singapore	350000	350000	700000
165	Slovak Repulic	150	66	216
166	Slovenia	81	50	131
167	Soloman Islands	20	-	20
168	Somalia	100	500	600
169	South Africa	50000	1500000	1550000
170	Spain	34974	20000	54974
171	Sri Lanka	14000	1600000	1614000
172	St. Kitts and Nevis	150	2500	2650
173	St. Lucia	250	5000	5250
174	St. Maartin (Netherlands)	-	5300	5300
175	St. Vincent & the Grenadines	50	3000	3050
176	Sudan	3500	100	3600
177	South Sudan	450	-	450
178	Suriname	150	153306	153456
179	Swaziland	-	1000	1000
180	Sweden	9234	9000	18234
181	Switzerland	12059	6515	18574
182	Syria	72	-	72
183	Tajikistan	500	10	510
184	Tanzania	7100	46000	53100
185	Thailand	20000	150000	170000

186	Togo	500	10	510
187	Tonga	20	4	24
188	Trinidad & Tobago	1500	555000	556500
189	Tunisia	120	5	125
190	Turkey	137	-	137
191	Turkmenistan	645	-	645
192	Turks & Caicos Islands (UK)	900	15	915
193	Tuvalu	-	50	50
194	Uganda	25000	2000	27000
195	Ukraine	5000	600	5600
196	UAE	2000000	2349	2002349
197	UK	325000	1500000	1825000
198	USA	1272846	3183063	4455909
199	Uruguay	140	4	144
200	Uzbekistan	2625	30	2655
201	Vanuatu	75	25	100
202	Venezuela	75	40	115
203	Vietnam	2352	338	2690
204	Yemen	5000	10000	15000
205	Zambia	5000	7000	12000
206	Zimbabwe	500	8500	9000
	TOTAL	11379746	17075280	28455026

As on January, 2015:

NRIs	=	11379746
PIOs	=	17075280
Overseas Indians	=	28455026

ANNEXURE –II

**Annexure referred to in reply to parts (b) & (c) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No.
*47 for 02.12.2015**

**Details provided by the Indian Missions in twelve ECR countries in November
2015 regarding complaints on different aspects registered by them in 2015**

No.	Name of Mission	Number of total complaints registered in 2015
1.	Bahrain	806
2.	Baghdad(Iraq)	Nil
3.	Amman(Jordan)	1
4.	Kuwait	3236
5.	Beirut(Lebanon)	Nil
6.	Tripoli(Libya)	Nil
7.	Doha(Qatar)	378
8.	Muscat(Oman)	413
9.	Damascus(Syria)	Nil
10.	Dubai & Abu Dhabi(UAE)	126
11.	Kingdom of Saudi Arabia	2472
12.	Yemen	Nil