

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1826
TO BE ANSWERED ON 04.05.2016**

FUNCTIONING OF INDIAN EMBASSIES IN GULF COUNTRIES

1826. SHRI P.K. BIJU:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Indian embassies in the middle east particularly Saudi Arabia, UAE, Bahrain, Kuwait, Qatar and Oman have been able to render the requisite assistance/services to Indians living there;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and**
- (c) the corrective steps taken, if any, in this regard?**

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b) Yes, Indian Embassies in the Middle East, particularly Saudi Arabia, UAE, Bahrain, Kuwait, Qatar and Oman are rendering the requisite assistance/services to Indians living there.

Our Embassies remain in regular touch with the authorities concerned in these countries to protect the interests of Indian expatriates as also to ensure their welfare. They take all possible steps to provide any assistance/services requested by Indians living in these countries. These steps include, inter alia, putting in place requisite institutional mechanisms, organizing community outreach programmes and assistance under Indian Community Welfare Fund.

Our Embassies maintain regular and active interaction with the Indian community and render a wide range of consular services, including granting/renewal of passports, emergency certificates, registrations of marriage, birth and death and attestation of documents etc..

Our Missions have community welfare officers and dedicated help lines to render necessary assistance. In addition, a web portal namely MADAD (online Consular Grievances Monitoring System) has been launched in February 2015 to assist Indians abroad requiring any assistance.

(c) Does not arise.
