

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**

**LOK SABHA  
STARRED QUESTION NO.360  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 17.07.2019**

**TORTURE OF INDIAN WORKERS**

**\*360. SHRI ADV. DEAN KURIAKOSE:**

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

- (a) whether the Government has any data on the Indian workers in Gulf countries who are victims of torture by their sponsors and if so, the details thereof;**
- (b) whether the Embassies/ Consulates have adequate staff to support these distressed workers and if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) the number of distressed Indian workers registered for repatriation in the Embassies/Consulates in Gulf countries;**
- (d) whether the Government has received any complaints against the Indian embassy staff from these affected workers; and**
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon?**

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
(DR. SUBRAHMANYAM JAISHANKAR)**

**(a) to (e) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.**

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**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (A) to (E)  
OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 360  
REGARDING “TORTURE OF INDIAN WORKERS” FOR  
ANSWER ON 17.07.2019.**

(a) As per information given by our Missions and Posts in the Gulf countries, the number of complaints by Indian workers due to various reasons are as follows:

S. No.	Country	2016	2017	2018	2019 (as on 30.6.2019)
1	Bahrain	693	792	734	450
2	Qatar	2747	3328	3244	1459
3	Saudi Arabia	8912	8447	8272	2244
4	Oman	2245	4144	3594	1764
5	Kuwait	4187	4481	3287	2377
6	United Arab Emirates	2368	3756	2153	1477

Most of the complaints received from and on behalf of Indian workers are regarding non-payment of salaries and denial of legitimate labour rights and benefits such as non-issuance/renewal of residence permits, non-payment/grant of overtime allowance, weekly holidays, longer working hours, refusal to grant exit/re-entry permits for visit to India, refusal to allow the worker on final exit visa after completion of their contracts and non-provision of medical and insurance facilities, not being paid compensation upon death, etc.

(b) There are 42 India based officers and 202 India based staff deployed in 11 Missions and Posts in the Gulf countries. They are assisted by 354 local employees. The requirement of manpower in any establishment changes depending upon varying workload from time to time. Ministry of External Affairs regularly reviews the requirement of manpower at various levels in Missions and Posts abroad as well as at the Headquarters, and takes appropriate action as per the requirement.

(c) The country-wise numbers of workers who registered for repatriation in the Embassies/ Consulates in Gulf countries are as under.

S. No.	Country	2016	2017	2018	2019 (as on 30.6.2019)
1	Bahrain	455	608	546	285
2	Qatar	2747	1985	2387	1138
3	Saudi Arabia	3030	1747	5078	1104
4	Oman	2012	1735	1036	665
5	Kuwait	4086	4406	3208	2330
6	United Arab Emirates	401	568	643	282

(d) No.

(e) Does not arise.

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