



Ministry of External Affairs

Government of India

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Q NO.2845 INDIANS STUCK UP IN SAUDI ARABIA

February 20, 2014

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2845
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20.02.2014

INDIANS STUCK UP IN SAUDI ARABIA

2845. SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that a large number of Indians have been stuck up in Saudi Arabia;
- (b) whether as per version of the Indian Mission in Saudi Arabia, these people had illegally entered in the above region;
- (c) whether these people are maltreated and have been denied their emoluments; and
- (d) whether Government has initiated some action plan to rescue the above beleaguers people?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
(SHRI E. AHAMED)

(a) During the seven-month grace period given by the Saudi government from April-November 2013 to overstaying expatriate workers to either correct their legal status or leave the country without facing any penal action, over 1.4 million Indian workers availed the concessions. During this period, over 1,41,000 Indian workers left Saudi Arabia on final exit, including those who returned availing the concessions and others who left the country on completion of their normal contractual period.

Some Indian workers did not avail the concessions to correct their legal status. Of these, 82 persons have currently been accommodated in the shelter arranged by our mission in Riyadh. From time to time, expatriate workers, in violation of local labour laws, are detained in Saudi Deportation Centres before their final deportation to India.

(b) The government of India has no information on any Indian who entered into Saudi Arabia illegally. However, the status of some expatriate workers becomes illegal as and when they violate local labour laws during the course of their stay.

(c) & (d) The Government of India continues to raise these and related issues with the concerned authorities in Saudi Arabia for facilitating and expediting early deportation of all Indian workers who did not or could not correct their legal status during the grace period.



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