



Ministry of External Affairs
Government of India

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QUESTION NO.819 RETRENCHED INDIAN WORKERS IN SAUDI ARABIA

February 09, 2017

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.819
TO BE ANSWERED ON 09.02.2017

RETRENCHED INDIAN WORKERS IN SAUDI ARABIA

819. SHRI K.R. ARJUNAN:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Saudi Arabia had promised to fly back the retrenched Indian workers who want to come back;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that Government of Saudi Arabia has promised to try and find jobs for retrenched Indian workers; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

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

(a) & (b) Following reports of difficulties faced by a section of Indian workers in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia primarily in two major Saudi companies namely Saudi Oger and the Saad Group, the Government had taken up the matter with the Government of Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. The Saudi authorities agreed to extend all possible assistance to the affected Indian workers of these companies including waiver of fines on Iqama (resident permit) related violations, providing exit visas and one way return tickets to India. Presently, the process of repatriation is nearing completion and 4830 Indian workers have returned so far.

(c) & (d) The Saudi authorities are also facilitating transfer of sponsorship, wherever possible, of the affected workers from their present company to other companies on gratis basis. A significant number of affected workers have also availed transfer of sponsorship to other companies.



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