

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-2905**  
ANSWERED ON- 17/03/2023  
**INDIAN MIGRANT WORKERS**

2905. SHRI RAJAN VICHARE  
SHRI S. VENKATESAN

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

- (a) the number of Indian migrant workers who returned from foreign countries between June 2020 to till date, country-wise;
- (b) the number of people who left India to work in Gulf countries during the said period, country-wise;
- (c) whether the Government has conducted an assessment of job losses suffered by Indians abroad during the COVID-19 crisis; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, whether the Government has any plans to conduct such an exercise?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

(SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN)

(a to d) Comprehensive figures for return of Indian migrant workers from all foreign countries are not available. The nature of movement of workers, especially to countries that fall under the Emigration Clearance Not Required (ECNR) category, is such that accurate tracking is very difficult.

2. Insofar as Indians who left to work in Gulf countries are concerned, the figures as available from e-Migrate portal for the period 1 June 2020 to 8 March 2023 are as follows:

<b>Country</b>	<b>2020 (01 June – 31 December)</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023 (till 08 March)</b>
Saudi Arabia	3606	32845	178630	44091
United Arab Emirates	2723	10844	33233	9155
Qatar	1917	49579	30871	6232
Oman	1888	19452	31994	4791
Bahrain	1776	6382	10232	1690
Kuwait	2	10158	71432	9310

3. During the pandemic, it was the Government's priority to ensure that its impact on Indian workers in terms of loss of employment was mitigated. To that end, the Ministry and all our Missions in the Gulf were continuously engaged with the Government of the Gulf nations to maintain the workers, ensure their welfare and facilitate financial payments due to them.

4. To facilitate the employment of Indian workers abroad, and to safeguard their interests, the Ministry has entered into Memorandum of Understandings (MoUs) and Labour Manpower Agreements (LMAs) with the governments of Gulf cooperation Council (GCC) countries (Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and United Arab Emirates). Further, to safeguard the specific interest of domestic workers in GCC Countries, agreements on Labour Cooperation for Domestic Sector have been signed with Saudi Arabia, UAE and Kuwait.

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