

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-4855**  
ANSWERED ON- 31/03/2023

**ENGINEERS WORKING IN KUWAIT**

4855. ADV. A.M. ARIFF

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

(a) whether the Government has noticed that vast majority of the Indian Engineers working in Kuwait would lose their job due to the insistence of the Kuwait Society of Engineers on NBA accreditation for the engineering courses pursued by Indian Engineers and if so, the details thereof and action taken thereon;

(b) whether the Government has taken any steps to find an amicable solution to the matter protecting the interests of Indian Engineers in discussion with the relevant authorities in Kuwait, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of Indian Engineers working in Kuwait, who graduated from NBA accredited as well as non-NBA accredited institutions, before and after 2012 separately?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

(SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN)

(a) The Government is aware of certain difficulties being faced by some Indian engineers in Kuwait on account of non-issuance of NOCs by Kuwait Society of Engineers (KSE) in respect of engineers who have passed out of non-NBA accredited institutes.

(b) Government of India has been actively pursuing the matter since March 2018 when Public Authority of Manpower of Kuwait vide its notification made the requirement of obtaining No Objection Certificate (NOC) from Kuwait Society of Engineers for renewal of residencies of expatriate engineers mandatory. The issue has been raised at high levels during the course of bilateral engagements with the State of Kuwait.

Ministry of External Affairs had facilitated the visit of a delegation from Kuwait's Public Authority for Manpower and Kuwait Society of Engineers to Delhi in June 2018. The delegation had met officials in Ministry of Human Resource Development, UGC, AICTE and NBA. Subsequently, based on a mechanism of regular meetings between Embassy of India, Kuwait and the KSE, a number of cases were resolved.

Government has also constantly clarified to the Kuwaiti side, including through sustained engagement in recent months, that universities/technical institutions in India require University Grants Commission (UGC)/All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) approval, as applicable. Accreditation, including National Board of Accreditation and National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC), is not

mandatory. A comprehensive list of non-NBA premier institutes {top National Institutional Ranking Framework(NIRF) ranked technical institutes and NAAC approved technical institutes under the purview of AICTE} and 'Institutes of National Importance' in India has also been shared with Kuwaiti authorities.

Ministry of External Affairs and Ministry of Education continue to work with NBA, UGC and AICTE to effectively pursue the issues related to accreditation of Indian engineers in Kuwait. NBA is working with non-accredited Indian Institutes whose Engineers/professionals are working in Kuwait for their faster accreditation. These Institutions are pursued to apply for accreditation of their programs and their applications for accreditation are processed by NBA on priority basis.

c) The specific data is not available. However, during a recent online registration drive conducted by the Embassy of India, Kuwait in December 2022, around 5500 Indian engineers in Kuwait registered.

\*\*\*\*\*