

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3216

ANSWERED ON:04.02.2004

MALTREATMENT OF INDIAN WORKERS ABROAD

DADICHILUKA VEERA GOURI SANKARA RAO;GADDE RAMAMOHAN;M.V.V.S MURTHI

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

- (a) whether some cases of maltreatment of Indian workers in South East Asian countries particularly in Singapore have come to the notice of the Government;
- (b) if so, the details of such incidents alongwith the action taken by the Government; and
- (c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to safeguard the interests of the Indian workers abroad?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI VINOD KHANNA)

a) Yes.

b) 55 cases of maltreatment of Indian workers out of approximately 40,000 workers in Singapore were reported during the year 2003. In Malaysia, a few cases of maltreatment were reported during the year 2003. Most of these cases pertain to non-payment of salaries and premature termination of work contract.

c) The Government is committed to safeguard the interests of Indian workers abroad. Indian Missions/Posts abroad are under instructions to promptly take up such complaints of Indian workers with the local authorities concerned and provide all necessary assistance to them.