

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:331  
ANSWERED ON:23.11.2011  
NURSES RETURNING FROM SAUDI ARABIA  
Thomas Shri P. T.

**Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether a large number of Indian nurses are returning from Saudi Arabia;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the number of nurses returned this year and the reasons for their return;
- (c) whether the Government has taken up the issue with the Saudi Arabia Government;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the measures proposed to be taken by the Government at the diplomatic level to ensure job security for the new recruits to Saudi Arabia?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI)

(a) & (b): There are no such instances where exodus of large number of Indian nurses from Saudi Arabia has taken place. As per provision of the contract, Saudi authorities can employ a Saudi nurse as and when available in place of a foreign recruited one after payment of legal dues to such nurses. The Saudi side has not informed about the number of such nurses who might have returned to India.

(c) to (e): Indian Mission in Saudi Arabia has taken up cases of few nurses with the Saudi side on humanitarian grounds. The Saudi side takes such decisions in line with the nationalization policy of the Government to provide jobs to unemployed Saudi citizens and in accordance with the provisions contained in the contract.