

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3159  
ANSWERED ON:12.12.2012  
UNDER-STAFFED EMBASSIES  
Dias Dr. Charles

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

- (a) whether the Indian Embassies in U.A.E. and other Gulf countries are under staffed;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether there have been complaints of inordinate delay in attending to the problems of Indians in gulf countries by the missions abroad;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the steps taken/being taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI PRENEET KAUR)

- (a) & (b) The Indian Missions/Posts abroad, including in UAE and other Gulf countries, are staffed in accordance with their respective sanctioned strengths. The Ministry of External Affairs regularly assesses the manpower requirements of its Missions/Posts abroad and the number of personnel is adjusted from time to time in keeping with their requirements and availability of manpower.
- (c) to (e) Indian Missions/Posts in UAE and other Gulf countries which host the largest number of Indian expatriates in the world attend to consular issues/ problems of Indian nationals on priority and there is no inordinate delay in attending to the problems of Indians in Gulf countries by the concerned Missions/Posts, except on occasions because of procedural and judicial delays by host governments. Our Missions/Posts keep in close touch with our expatriates through 24/7 help lines, hold frequent interactions with Indian nationals and their Associations and hold regular open houses on specified days every month with a view to ensure speedy solutions to their problems and promote their welfare and well being.