

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1524
ANSWERED ON:04.03.2015
PASSPORTS OF INDIANS RETAINED IN IRAQ
Mohan Shri P. C.

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

- (a) whether the passports of Indian workers retained by employers in Iraq as reported by Amnesty International have since been handed over to them;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to intervene in the matter to resolve this issue?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (GENERAL V.K. SINGH (RETD.))

(a) (b) & (c): Indian Embassy, Baghdad has reported that during the evacuation process last year, certain media reports have come to the notice of the Mission that Amnesty International has issued certain statements regarding a few Indian nationals not being allowed to leave by their employers by retaining their passports. All those cases were examined and have since been resolved and Indian nationals have been repatriated.