

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1980
ANSWERED ON:23.07.2014
OVERSEAS INDIAN CENTRES
Biju Shri Parayamparanbil Kuttappan

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

- (a) the details of Overseas Indian Centres presently functioning across the globe;
- (b) the details of functions being performed by these centres,
- (c) whether any review regarding the functioning of these centres have been conducted by the Government and if so. the details and findings thereof, and
- (d) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to resolve the difficulties being faced by these centres?

Answer

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

(a) The Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs has established two Overseas Indian Centres (OIC) in Washington DC in United States of America (USA), and Abu Dhabi in United Arab Emirates (UAE).

(b) Duties being performed by both centres are as follows: QIC. Washington

- i. Publicizing Diaspora Schemes like Know India Programme / Scholarship Programme for Diaspora Children.
 - ii. Recommending, if required, the names of persons interested in participating in schemes to Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs.
 - iii. Interactions with Indian Community Association.
 - iv. Works related to Overseas Citizens of India/Person of Indian Origin cards
- QIC. Abu Dhabi
- i. Attestation of employment contracts.
 - ii. Managing Indian Workers Resource Centre (IWRC)
 - iii. Maintenance and operation of Indian Community Welfare Fund (ICWF) to provide financial assistance to distressed Indians in need,
 - iv. Visit jails, hospitals, immigration authorities, labour authorities, police stations and liaison with the concerned local authorities for effectively redressing grievances of Indians,
 - v. Constant and regular interactions with various social and cultural Indian Community organizations and taking up their cause with the local authorities,
 - vi. Follow up with concerned authorities for payment of end-of service benefits, death compensation and Diya Money,
 - vii. Taking up issues of families back home of Indian residents in UAE with the concerned authorities in India.
- (c & d) No Madam. The two centres are performing their functions satisfactorily.