

Indians stranded in Kuwait

2262. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU:

SHRI DHARMAPURI SRINIVAS:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the problems of Indians stranded in Kuwait who are willing to come back to India on amnesty granted by Kuwait;

(b) whether it is a fact that in spite of approaching the Indian Embassy in Kuwait they are not getting any help and if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government has made any arrangements to bring them back and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS [GENERAL (RETD) V. K. SINGH]: (a) The Government is aware of the ongoing amnesty in Kuwait for expatriates residing illegally in that country. Our Mission in Kuwait is fully prepared to handle the situation arising from the amnesty offer.

(b) No. Our Mission is extending full support to all those stranded Indian nationals who are eligible to avail of the amnesty offer.

(c) Our Mission has been issuing travel documents (Emergency Certificates) to Indian nationals who are not in possession of valid passports. During the amnesty period, 9,605 Emergency Certificates have been issued till March 7, 2018. In addition, all possible assistance including through the Indian Community Welfare Fund (ICWF) is being rendered by our Mission. One way air tickets and financial assistance is being provided to deserving stranded Indians.

Indian citizen missing from Iraq

2263. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of efforts made by Government during the last few months to trace Indian citizens missing from Iraq since June, 2014;

(b) the details regarding the number of such missing people; and

(c) whether any of the missing citizens is from Rajasthan and if so, the details thereof?