

- (b) if so, the number of cases reported on illegal migration of Indians to USA;
- (c) whether an illegal migrant child died in Mexico border of USA; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken on agents engaged in illegal migration from the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN): (a) and (b) There are no authoritative figures on the number of undocumented Indian immigrants in the U.S. The U.S. Government does not release a comprehensive list, by nationality, of aliens detained for entering or staying in the U.S. without valid documents.

(c) and (d) In a recent unfortunate incident, a minor girl aged 7 years, of Indian nationality, was reportedly found dead by U.S. Border Patrol at the US-Mexican Border in Arizona on 12 June, 2019. According to U.S. Customs and Border Protection, she was accompanying four others dropped near the international boundary by smugglers. Once the information reached our Consulate in San Francisco, they extended all possible help including consular access to the bereaved mother who had been separated from the child during the journey, facilitating family re-union and coordination for the last rites of the child.

The Government receives, from time to time, complaints/grievances from emigrants and their family members/relatives about their being cheated by illegal agents. These complaints are forwarded to State/Union Territory Government and Police authorities concerned to take action against such agents, since law and order is a State subject. Government of India issued in May, 2016 Standard Operating Procedure to be followed by States on receipt of complaints. The State Governments have been requested to help create awareness amongst our nationals not to go through illegal agents.

Molestation case involving employee of High Commission of Pakistan

†1458. SHRI AJAY PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that a case of molestation of an Indian woman by an employee of High Commission of Pakistan has come to notice during 2018-19;
- (b) if so, details thereof;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) whether it is also a fact that the Indian diplomats are being ill-treated by the Pakistani intelligence agencies, especially after the said incident;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the details of action taken by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN): (a) and (b) An alleged incident of harassment involving an official of the High Commission of Pakistan was reported in January, 2019. The allegations were denied by the Pakistani official. The victim also did not file any police complaint.

(c) to (e) Government of India has, from time to time, taken up the incidents of harassment, aggressive surveillance and intimidation of the officials of the Indian High Commission in Islamabad. Pakistan side has been asked to ensure safety and security of our diplomatic Mission and its diplomatic and consular officials.

The Government has made it clear that respective diplomatic Missions should be allowed to function normally in keeping with the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations, 1961 and the bilateral Code of Conduct signed by the two countries in 1992.

On 30 March 2018, India and Pakistan mutually agreed to resolve matters related to the treatment of diplomats and diplomatic premises, in line with the 1992 Code of Conduct for the treatment of diplomatic/consular personnel in India and Pakistan. The implementation of this understanding is regularly followed up through diplomatic channels.

Bilateral talks with Pakistan

1459. SHRI G.V.L. NARASIMHA RAO: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is committed to the stated policy of talks and terror cannot go together for bilateral talks with Pakistan;

(b) what demonstrable action that Government has sought from Pakistan to show that it has addressed India's concerns over terrorism; and

(c) what punitive steps Government has taken so far, since suspension of bilateral dialogue with Pakistan to dissuade Pakistan for its support to terrorism and what further actions are under consideration?