

(b) and (c) The Ministry has plans to issue chip enabled e-passports to citizens with advanced security features. The personal particulars of the applicants would be digitally signed and stored in the chip which would be embedded in the physical passport booklet. In case anyone tampers with the chip, the system shall be able to identify it resulting in the failure of the passport authentication.

The Government has given its approval for procurement of electronic contactless inlays for manufacturing of e-passports to India Security Press (ISP) Nasik. In this regard, ISP, Nasik, has been authorized to float a Global three-stage tender for procurement of International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO)-compliant electronic contactless inlays along with its operating system which is required for manufacture of e-passports. Manufacture of e-passport will commence on the successful completion of the tendering and procurement process by ISP, Nasik.

#### **Number of overseas Indians abroad**

2885. SHRI MANISH GUPTA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of overseas Indian abroad, country-wise;

(b) whether the presence of overseas Indians in significant numbers is an important factor in our relationship with countries of their settlement and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government has any action plan of engagement with overseas Indians in the developed countries and if so, details thereof, country-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN): (a) There are about 31 million overseas Indians abroad. A statement indicating estimated country-wise population of overseas Indians abroad, compiled in December, 2018, on the basis of inputs received from Indian Missions/Posts abroad, is given in Statement (*See below*).

(b) Yes, Sir. The presence of overseas Indians in significant numbers is an important factor in our relationship with countries of their settlement. The Indian diaspora does contribute in the strengthening of India's relationship with countries of their settlement in various fields including trade and investment, business exchanges, tourism promotion, technology transfer, research and development, higher education, etc. Besides, many of our diaspora members are placed at top level positions in industry, including Heads of Global Corporations; a number of them also have high level positions in politics, including Parliamentarians, and a few Heads of Government.

(c) Since 2014, several new initiatives have been taken and old programmes have been revamped by the Government for interaction of overseas Indians with India in the fields of Culture, Education and Trade.

The new initiatives taken by the Government are as below:—

- (i) The Know India Programme (KIP) is a flagship initiative of the Government to reconnect young persons of Indian-origin with their roots and give them an exposure to various aspects of Indian life, cultural heritage, art and contemporary India. The frequency of KIP has been increased from 2 to 6 editions in a year. The duration of the programme is increased from 21 to 25 days, the upper age of participants is increased from 26 to 30 years. More States can now be made partners in this programme with increased duration of the State leg from 7 to 10 days. In the last four and half years, 1060 young persons of Indian-origin participated in KIP programme.
- (ii) Besides, the Government has initiated a Special Know India Programme titled "Pravasi Teerth Darshan Yojana" for the people of Indian Origin (PIOs) in the age group of 45-60 years to connect them to the spiritual and religious aspects of India. This programme is aimed to help them visit India on an organized pilgrimage, paid for by the Government of India, and have an all round exposure to all faiths in India. Two editions are organized every year.
- (iii) The 1st PIO-Parliamentarian Conference was also held on January 9, 2018 in New Delhi, with an aim to strengthen the engagement with the Overseas Indians. The one-day Conference was attended by 137 sitting PIO Parliamentarians and Mayors from 24 countries.
- (iv) Pravasi Bhartiya Divas is celebrated every two years. The 15th PBD Convention was held from 21 to 23 January 2019 in Varanasi with Uttar Pradesh as the Partner State. In reverence to the sentiments of the larger diaspora, participants were offered to participate in Kumbh Mela at Prayagraj on 24 January, 2019 and to witness the Republic Day Parade at New Delhi on 26 January, 2019. In the spirit of "Atithi Devo Bhava", the delegates were also offered hospitality in the homes of Kashi citizens under "Kashi ka Athitya" programme.
- (v) Under a new initiative since 2015, Theme-based PBD Conferences are held on topics of concern to our diaspora with participation from overseas diaspora experts, policy makers and stakeholders. The result of these conferences are presented in the Plenary Sessions that are held in the PBD Convention. Their recommendations are then evaluated and implemented, which gives

our diaspora an opportunity to play an important role in policy formulation of the Government.

- (vi) The Scholarship Programme for Diaspora Children (SPDC), which was launched to make higher education in Indian Universities/Institutions accessible to diaspora children and promote India as a centre for higher studies, is now extended from 100 to 150 scholarships and from 40 to 67 countries. The scholarship amount has been increased from US\$ 3600 to US\$ 4000 per student per annum. The eligibility requirement of monthly income of parents is relaxed from US\$ 2250/- to US\$ 4000/- per month, and the documentation process is eased by introducing self-attestation of documents. Of the 150 scholarships, 50 are given to the children of CIWG (Children of Indians Working in Gulf) of which 1/3rd slots are reserved for wards of CIWG living and studying in India. SPDC is now also extended to wards of Indians living in Nepal (as they are not entitled to OCI/PIO/NRI status).
- (v) Ministry of External Affairs supports the diaspora to organise the cultural events under the Promotion of Cultural Ties with Diaspora (PCTD) scheme with an aim to showcase Indian culture and new initiatives and developments of modern India. Under the guidelines of ICWF, all the HoMs have also been delegated powers to spend money on these events.

#### *Statement*

*Population of Overseas Indians (Compiled in December, 2018)*

Sl. No.	Country	Non-Resident Persons of Indian Origin (PIOs)		Overseas Indians
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Afghanistan	2,960	9	2,969
2.	Albania	50	2	52
3.	Algeria	3,500	16	3,516
4.	Andorra	160	0	160
5.	Angola	1,500	2,500	4,000
6.	Anguilla	15	5	20
7.	Antigua and Barbuda	250	300	550
8.	Argentina	600	1,800	2,400
9.	Armenia	1,477	23	1,500

1	2	3	4	5
10.	Aruba	-	1,000	1,000
11.	Australia	241,000	255,000	496,000
12.	Austria and Montenegro	13,000	18,000	31,000
13.	Azerbaijan	953	24	977
14.	Bahamas	250	50	300
15.	Bahrain	312,918	3,257	316,175
16.	Bangladesh	10,385	6	10,391
17.	Barbados	100	2,114	2,214
18.	Belarus	420	67	487
19.	Belgium	11,202	8,000	19,202
20.	Belize	250	9,800	10,050
21.	Benin	1,563	0	1,563
22.	Bhutan	60,000	0	60,000
23.	Bolivia	50	10	60
24.	Bonaire and Smaller Islands	-	200	200
25.	Bosnia and Herzegovina	20	6	26
26.	Botswana	9,000	3,000	12,000
27.	Brazil	4,729	344	5,073
28.	British Virgin Islands	50	10	60
29.	Brunei Darussalam	11,500	98	11,598
30.	Bulgaria	100	62	162
31.	Burkina Faso	200	5	205
32.	Burundi	465	35	500
33.	Cambodia	1,500	10	1,510
34.	Cameroon	245	0	245
35.	Canada	184,320	831,865	1,016,185
36.	Cape Verde Islands	20	0	20
37.	Cayman Islands	1,500	10	1,510
38.	Central African Republic	10	0	10

1	2	3	4	5
39.	Chad	120	0	120
40.	Chile	1,500	2,000	3,500
41.	China	55,500	520	56,020
42.	China (Hong Kong)	31,989	6,430	38,419
43.	China (Rep. of) (Taiwan)	3,068	378	3,446
44.	Colombia	112	106	218
45.	Comoros	30	200	230
46.	Congo (Dem. Rep. of)	9,000	25	9,025
47.	Congo (Republic of)	350	8	358
48.	Cook Island	5	200	205
49.	Costa Rica	230	20	250
50.	Cote d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast)	1,500	0	1,500
51.	Croatia	43	37	80
52.	Cuba	500	200	700
53.	Curacao	-	1,500	1,500
54.	Cyprus	5,730	128	5,858
55.	Czech Republic	1,800	600	2,400
56.	Denmark	8,100	3,100	11,200
57.	Djibouti	350	0	350
58.	Dominica (Common wealth of)	15	200	215
59.	Dominican Republic	100	75	175
60.	East Timor	70	0	70
61.	Ecuador	43	47	90
62.	Egypt	3,500	265	3,765
63.	El Salvador	14	3	17
64.	Equatorial Guinea	250	0	250
65.	Eritrea	300	3	303
66.	Estonia	535	421	956
67.	Ethiopia	5,250	23	5,273

1	2	3	4	5
68.	Fiji	1,400	313,798	315,198
69.	Finland	5,159	6,616	11,775
70.	France	19,000	90,000	109,000
71.	France (Reunion Island)	250	280,000	280,250
72.	France (Guadeloupe, Martinique, St. Martin)	420	66,800	67,220
73.	Gabon	100	10	110
74.	Gambia	700	16	716
75.	Georgia	3,192	8	3,200
76.	Germany	108,965	37,128	146,093
77.	Ghana	10,000	0	10,000
78.	Greece	12,015	485	12,500
79.	Grenada	200	5,000	5,200
80.	Guatemala	50	33	83
81.	Guinea (Republic of)	700	0	700
82.	Guinea Bissau	100	4	104
83.	Guyana	300	297,493	297,793
84.	Haiti	580	0	580
85.	Holy See	NA	0	0
86.	Honduras	15	2	17
87.	Hungary	1,026	124	1,150
88.	Iceland	257	76	333
89.	Indonesia	7,500	100,000	107,500
90.	Iran	4,000	273	4,273
91.	Iraq	10,000	0	10,000
92.	Ireland	13,500	20,500	34,000
93.	Israel	12,467	85,000	97,467
94.	Italy	172,301	25,000	197,301
95.	Jamaica	5,000	75,000	80,000

1	2	3	4	5
96.	Japan	28,047	670	28,717
97.	Jordan	20,050	157	20,207
98.	Kazakhstan	5,500	250	5,750
99.	Kenya	20,000	60,000	80,000
100.	Kiribati	-	50	50
101.	Korea (DPR)	15	0	15
102.	Korea (Republic of)	11,180	346	11,526
103.	Kuwait	928,421	1,482	929,903
104.	Kyrgyzstan	4,786	28	4,814
105.	Laos, PDR	425	75	500
106.	Latvia	760	25	785
107.	Lebanon	8,500	37	8,537
108.	Lesotho (Kingdom of)	500	1,000	1,500
109.	Liberia	3,000	0	3,000
110.	Libya	1,500	2	1,502
111.	Liechtenstein (Principality of)	5	5	10
112.	Lithuania	250	50	300
113.	Luxembourg	1,872	500	2,372
114.	Macedonia	10	5	15
115.	Madagascar	2,500	15,000	17,500
116.	Malaysia	227,950	2,760,000	2,987,950
117.	Malawi	2,500	8,000	10,500
118.	Maldives	25,000	108	25,108
119.	Mali	299	0	299
120.	Malta	1,850	150	2,000
121.	Marshall Islands (Republic of)	14	1	15
122.	Mauritania	60	0	60
123.	Mauritius	10,500	884,000	894,500
124.	Mexico	8,000	1,600	9,600

1	2	3	4	5
125.	Micronesia	1	0	1
126.	Moldova	190	8	198
127.	Monaco	30	40	70
128.	Mongolia	150	5	155
129.	Montserrat	40	200	240
130.	Morocco	258	96	354
131.	Mozambique	2,500	30,000	32,500
132.	Myanmar	8,991	2,000,000	2,008,991
133.	Namibia	200	59	259
134.	Nauru	20	0	20
135.	Nepal	600,000	0	600,000
136.	Netherlands	35,000	200,000	235,000
137.	Netherlands Antilles	2,581	3,700	6,281
138.	New Zealand	75,000	125,000	200,000
139.	Nicaragua	6	6	12
140.	Niger	150	0	150
141.	Nigeria	40,000	35	40,035
142.	Norway	7,718	12,300	20,018
143.	Oman	688,226	919	689,145
144.	Pakistan	0	0	0
145.	Palau (Republic of)	15	0	15
146.	Palestine (PLO)	20	0	20
147.	Panama	4,000	9,000	13,000
148.	Papua New Guinea	1,400	100	1,500
149.	Paraguay	200	400	600
150.	Peru	399	55	454
151.	Philippines	105,000	15,000	120,000
152.	Poland	4,000	600	4,600
153.	Portugal	7,244	66,000	73,244



1	2	3	4	5
154.	Qatar	691,539	500	692,039
155.	Romania	865	188	1,053
156.	Russian Federation	28,610	1,950	30,560
157.	Rwanda	2,940	60	3,000
158.	Samoa	40	30	70
159.	San Marino	NA	0	0
160.	Sao Tome and Principe (Rep. of)	50	0	50
161.	Saudi Arabia (Kingdom of)	2,812,408	2,160	2,814,568
162.	Senegal	500	32	532
163.	Serbia	56	7	63
164.	Seychelles	4,000	6,000	10,000
165.	Sierra Leone	900	50	950
166.	Singapore	350,000	300,000	650,000
167.	Slovak Republic	200	50	250
168.	Slovenia	80	50	130
169.	Solomon Islands	20	0	20
170.	Somalia	100	0	100
171.	South Africa	60,000	1,500,000	1,560,000
172.	Spain	35,308	20,000	55,308
173.	Sri Lanka	14,000	1,600,000	1,614,000
174.	St. Kitts and Nevis	250	500	750
175.	St. Lucia	250	5,005	5,255
176.	St. Martin	-	5,300	5,300
177.	St. Vincent and the Grenadines	50	3,000	3,050
178.	Sudan	2,600	100	2,700
179.	South Sudan	1,000	500	1,500
180.	Suriname	150	154,321	154,471
181.	Swaziland	500	500	1,000
182.	Sweden	15,349	10,370	25,719

1	2	3	4	5
183.	Switzerland	17,403	7,164	24,567
184.	Syria	107	0	107
185.	Tajikistan	1,100	25	1,125
186.	Tanzania	10,000	50,000	60,000
187.	Thailand	20,000	175,000	195,000
188.	Togo	500	10	510
189.	Tonga	6	40	46
190.	Trinidad and Tobago	1,800	555,000	556,800
191.	Tunisia	121	16	137
192.	Turkey	1,609	99	1,708
193.	Turkmenistan	482	-	482
194.	Turks and Caicos Islands	200	35	235
195.	Tuvalu	-	50	50
196.	Uganda	23,500	6,500	30,000
197.	Ukraine	7,541	422	7,963
198.	UAE	3,100,000	4,586	3,104,586
199.	UK	325,000	1,500,000	1,825,000
200.	USA	1,280,000	3,180,000	4,460,000
201.	Uruguay	500	30	530
202.	Uzbekistan	350	32	382
203.	Vanuatu	10	800	810
204.	Venezuela	70	40	110
205.	Vietnam	3,000	300	3,300
206.	Yemen	500	10,000	10,500
207.	Zambia	5,000	18,000	23,000
208.	Zimbabwe	500	9,000	9,500
TOTAL		13,113,360	17,882,369	30,995,729