

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1063  
ANSWERED ON:02.08.2006  
SUICIDES BY INDIANS IN GULF .  
Panda Shri Prabodh;Veerendra Kumar Shri M.P.

**Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:**

- (a) Whether around 169 suicides by Indians have taken place in Gulf alone as reported in the The Hindustan Times dated May 15, 2006;
- (b) If so, the details and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) The steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED)

(a) & (b) As per information collated by Indian Embassies in Doha, Abu Dhabi, Bahrain, Muscat, Riyadh and Kuwait, a total of 269 suicides by Indian nationals took place in the Gulf in 2005, and 166 in 2006 till date. The reasons are manifold including personal, financial, family and work related.

Details of suicides in major countries of the Gulf are as follows:

Name of Mission/Country	2005	2006- till date	Total
Qatar	3	6	9
UAE	100	69	169
Bahrain	23	11	34
Oman	44	23	67
Saudi Arabia	69	37	106
Kuwait	30	20	50
Grand total:	269	166	435

(c) In order to promote the welfare of overseas Indian communities in countries of the Gulf, Indian Missions have designated officers to look after community welfare. Towards this end, the Missions by themselves and in concert with Community Welfare Associations facilitate social and cultural activities, along with provision of counseling and legal assistance. Some Missions also hold 'Open House' once a month at which any Indian national is free to discuss with senior officials of the Mission any kind of personal or work related problem.

In India, it has been made mandatory w.e.f. 15.11.2003 for the Recruiting Agents to submit all the employment documents, viz., demand letter, power of attorney and specimen employment contract in original for obtaining emigration clearance. Further, in respect of vulnerable categories such as unskilled labour, housemaids/ domestic workers, these employment documents are also required to be attested by the concerned Indian Mission(s).