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Title: Regarding non-receipt of salary and other problems faced by Indian citizens, working in Masirah Islands of Oman.

SHRI E. AHAMED : Mr. Speaker, Sir, there are millions of Indian nationals living in Gulf countries and some of them are put to great difficulty and hardship by their employers. While they have been undergoing such difficulties and hardships, I am sorry to say that some of our Missions and Embassies are very much insensitive to their problems. A classic example has been brought to my notice which I am constrained to bring to the notice of this House.

Sir, in Masirah Island of Oman, 19 Indians have been left without any salary for 20 months. They have no food, no job, and no accommodation. Their passports and visas have also expired. They are getting no help or support or assistance or guidance from the Indian Embassy in Muscat. They have been writing about this to our Embassy. A very important newspaper of Oman, the *Times of Oman* has written an article on this saying:

"13 months after filing case, staff of a firm on Masirah Island are yet to get unpaid salary."

Sir, this is all because of unsympathetic and insensitive attitude of our Embassy in Oman. One Shri Aymmedkuty, who is from my area, has also written to me about the miserable plight of himself and his co-workers there. They have travelled all the way from the Masirah Island with all the difficulties and submitted a petition to the Indian Embassy in Muscat. They had addressed a letter to the Indian Embassy even in December, 2001 but so far nothing has been done.

Therefore, I would urge upon the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs to take up this matter with the Ministry of External Affairs as early as possible and do whatever is possible.