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Title: Need to open an Attestation Centre of Ministry of External Affairs at Calicut, Kerala for the convenience of NRIs hailing from Kerala.

SHRI M.K. RAGHAVAN (KOZHIKODE): More than 4 million Indians are residing in the Gulf countries and out of this more than 60% of them are from Kerala. At present the certificates and other documents are required to get attested by the concerned Indian authorities including the MEA. The Kerala Government, through NORKA, has opened three authentication centers at Thiruvananthapuram, Ernakulam and Kozhikode to help the public. However, these are further required to be attested by the MEA at New Delhi, Chennai or Goa. In order to help the NRIs, it is suggested that one Attestation Centre under the MEA should be opened in Kerala preferably at Calicut so that the majority of people working in the Gulf countries can utilize the services conveniently.