



Embassy of India

Bahrain

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PRESS RELEASE

The Embassy of India organised the Open House on 28 May 2021 between 10:00 hrs to 12:00 hrs, during which Ambassador Piyush Srivastava interacted with the Indian community directly in virtual mode for redressing their urgent/non-routine consular and labour issues.

Ambassador thanked Indian Community in Bahrain for their support in the current Covid-19 Pandemic situation and appreciated their gesture for providing about 900 Oxygen cylinders and 35 Oxygen concentrators to India.

Ambassador also congratulated the Kingdom of Bahrain for attaining the highest rank in the Gulf and Arab region for expatriates in the recent Expat Insider 2021 Survey, and on behalf of the Indian community, conveyed thanks and appreciation to the Leadership and the Government of the Kingdom for the care and support extended to them in general and in particular during these challenging times.

Ambassador encouraged the community members to follow Kingdom's COVID advisory and protocols, as well as to get vaccinated to support Kingdom's efforts in fighting pandemic as well as for their own safety.

Ambassador also briefed the community members on the issue of about 1000 Indian nationals enroute Saudi Arabia who are stuck in Bahrain due to the recent guidelines issued by the Government of Saudi Arabia with regard to the travel through King Fahad Causeway link by road from Bahrain to Saudi Arabia. The Embassy, in coordination with several Indian associations, is in constant touch with them. The Embassy is in touch with the Bahraini Government authorities who have been quite supportive in this regard. Our Embassy in Saudi Arabia has also taken up the matter with the Government there.

The Embassy has contacted some of the concerned travel agents to facilitate the onward travel of these stranded people to Saudi Arabia by air. As a result of these efforts, it is understood that over 300 people have already travelled to Saudi Arabia. In this regard, Ambassador appreciated the initiative of some of the Indian associations for chartering flights for Saudi Arabia for which he assured all support from the Embassy.

Meanwhile, the Embassy, in close coordination with Indian associations, is ensuring that the needy stranded Indian nationals are provided with the basic amenities including food, accommodation and medical care etc.

In view of the rapid increase in COVID infection rate, the Government of Bahrain has been regularly updating COVID protocols and guidelines including travel related advisory. Ambassador asked the community members to regularly visit Embassy's website and social media accounts which are being updated on real time basis for the information and convenience of the community members.

It was a productive interactive session. The grievances/issues of the Indian community were successfully addressed; some resolved at the open house, while others will be taken up at the earliest possible. Ambassador thanked all the Indian associations and community members for their active participation in the open house.