

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1782
TO BE ANSWERED ON 27.07.2016**

DEATH OF INDIAN WORKERS ABROAD

**1782. SHRI ABHIJIT MUKHERJEE:
SHRI PR. SENTHIL NATHAN:
SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL:
SHRIMATI V. SATHYA BAMA:**

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has any special cell/official committee to look after the difficulties of distressed Indians who work in various countries abroad;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the steps taken by the Government to create a special cell/team to assist people under distress while working abroad;**
- (c) whether the Government has made any hassle-free arrangements to bring back the bodies of deceased Indians who die while working in foreign countries;**
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and**
- (e) the total number of Indian workers State-wise who died while working in foreign countries in the last three years, year-wise, country-wise and the details of compensation provided to the family of these deceased by the Government?**

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
(SHRI M. J. AKBAR)**

(a) & (b) Consular Officers posted in Indian Missions/Posts abroad are tasked with addressing the difficulties of distressed Indians, including Indian workers, in various countries abroad. In Gulf countries and in Malaysia, where there are large numbers of Indian workers, our Missions and Posts have specialised Community

Welfare Wings and Labour Wings. In addition, the Government has launched an online portal called 'MADAD' for addressing the grievances of Indian nationals abroad. A Call Centre has also been in operation to assist Indian workers to register their grievances on the Madad Portal. The Portal is regularly monitored in our Missions/Posts at various levels, thus giving high priority to grievances of Indian workers. An Indian Workers Resource Center (IWRC) has also been operational in Dubai, UAE, since 2010. Four new Indian Workers Resource Centres (IWRCs) have been approved for setting up in Riyadh, Jeddah, Sharjah and Kuala Lumpur.

(c) & (d) For the purpose of bringing back the mortal remains of an Indian national, registration of death at the concerned Indian Mission/Post is necessary, for which some documents are required such as, medical report/death certificate issued from a hospital, copy of detailed police report in case of accidental or unnatural death and a consent letter from next of kin of the deceased for local cremation/burial/transportation of mortal remains. In addition to the above, other documents such as clearance and arrangements for embalming of mortal remains, clearance from local immigration/customs department, etc., may be required. These procedures may differ from country to country.

While there is no undue delay in cases of natural deaths, the time taken in transporting the mortal remains to India is longer in the case of unnatural deaths, because of local procedures involved in those countries for investigating the cause of death.

Our Missions/Posts remain in constant touch with the concerned foreign Governments to expedite procedures for the repatriation of mortal remains to India. The issue is also taken up at bilateral dialogues, including at high levels.

(e) State-wise details of Indian workers who died abroad are not available. However, a list of Indian workers who died abroad for the last three years is attached at Annexure. Payment of compensation depends upon the circumstances of injury/death, the terms of the contract and local labour laws applicable in the country of work. Our Missions and Posts provide all possible assistance to Indian nationals in following up their claims of compensation in the event of accident or death.

ANNEXURE

Death of Indian Workers Abroad					
S. No.	Name of Country	The number of death of Indian workers abroad during the last three years and this year (data includes only Indian workers abroad)			
		2013	2014	2015	2016
1	Afghanistan	8	11	5	4
2	Algeria	2	3	4	1
3	Angola	5	9	1	4
4	Argentina	0	0	2	2
5	Armenia	3	2	0	0
6	Australia	51	60	39	32
7	Austria	13	7	14	5
8	Azerbaijan	1	0	0	0
9	Bahrain	163	175	223	107
10	Bangladesh	3	3	4	1
11	Belgium	0	10	4	8
12	Bhutan	26	27	26	21
13	Botswana	11	1	1	8
14	Brazil	4	3	2	1
15	Bulgaria	1	0	0	0
16	Cambodia	2	4	3	1
17	Canada	52	78	67	48
18	Chile	2	1	0	1
19	China	31	38	39	21
20	Congo (D.Rep.)	7	8	14	0
21	Croatia	0	0	1	0
22	Cuba	1	0	0	1
23	Cyprus	3	1	0	0
24	Denmark	1	2	8	1
25	Egypt	0	1	1	0
26	Ethiopia	6	11	12	2
27	Finland	0	0	1	1
28	France	14	22	15	0
29	Germany	16	41	38	16
30	Ghana	9	17	13	8
31	Greece	16	25	18	16
32	Guatemala	2	0	0	0
33	Guyana	1	2	2	0
34	Iceland	2	2	2	1

35	Iran	5	6	12	7
36	Iraq	15	16	11	3
37	Israel	4	3	5	1
38	Italy	95	82	77	64
39	Japan	4	6	3	1
40	Jordan	12	12	14	9
41	Kazakhstan	1	3	0	0
42	Kenya	1	4	1	2
43	Korea (Rep. of)	2	5	2	0
44	Kuwait	533	559	611	295
45	Laos	0	1	1	0
46	Lebanon	23	17	21	10
47	Libya	14	10	5	6
48	Malawi	5	4	7	4
49	Malaysia	221	150	286	170
50	Mali	0	0	1	2
51	Mauritius	5	5	8	4
52	Mexico	0	0	1	0
53	Mongolia	0	0	1	0
54	Mozambique	3	4	5	4
55	Namibia	3	1	2	1
56	Nepal	25	46	81	30
57	Netherlands	2	0	1	1
58	New Zealand	24	18	16	4
59	Niger	0	0	1	0
60	Nigeria	15	31	24	21
61	Norway	0	0	1	0
62	Oman	555	519	520	272
63	Palestine	0	0	0	1
64	Panama	1	2	3	1
65	Papua New Guinea	0	0	1	0
66	Philippines	33	48	43	0
67	Portugal	8	4	5	7
68	Qatar	241	279	279	152
69	Romania	0	0	0	2
70	Russian Federation	5	8	7	10
71	Saudi Arabia	2394	2430	2693	1559
72	Senegal	2	3	4	1
73	Seychelles	6	6	2	4

74	Singapore	17	21	17	9
75	South Africa	17	33	30	23
76	Sri Lanka	5	5	5	3
77	Suriname	0	1	0	1
78	Sudan	0	6	7	5
79	Sweden	1	0	0	0
80	Switzerland	7	5	7	5
81	Tajikistan	0	1	1	0
82	Tanzania	3	11	22	16
83	Thailand	0	0	1	1
84	Trinidad and Tobago	0	0	1	1
85	Tunisia	0	1	0	0
86	Turkey	3	0	1	1
87	Turkmenistan	0	0	1	0
88	Uganda	31	31	35	13
89	United Arab Emirates	1385	1435	1540	825
90	United Kingdom	92	93	86	32
91	United States of America	39	59	74	22
92	Uzbekistan	0	2	3	0
93	Venezuela	1	1	0	0
94	Vietnam	4	3	5	1
95	Yemen	3	8	8	6
96	Zambia	8	2	13	4
	Total	6329	6564	7171	3927
