

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PORTS, SHIPPING AND WATERWAYS

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UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1913
ANSWERED ON 05.08.2025

WELFARE AND SAFETY OF INDIAN SEAFARERS ON INTERNATIONAL ROUTES

1913. SHRI SANA SATHISH BABU:

Will the Minister of PORTS, SHIPPING AND WATERWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of Indian seafarers reported missing, injured, or deceased while serving on foreign-flagged ships or Indian-flagged ships operating in international waters during the last five years, year-wise and country/region-wise;
- (b) the number of such cases reported from Andhra Pradesh, including district-wise breakup, if available;
- (c) whether Government provided legal, logistical, or financial assistance to the affected families, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the measures taken to strengthen verification, grievance redressal and welfare mechanisms for Indian seafarers employed abroad or on international routes?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF PORTS, SHIPPING AND WATERWAYS
(SHRI SARBANANDA SONOWAL)

- (a) The details of total number of Indian seafarers reported deceased and missing while serving on foreign-flagged ships or India-flagged ships operating in international waters during the last five years, year-wise and region-wise [as per place of issuance of Continuous Discharge Certificate (CDC)] are as under:

Death cases Region-wise

Region	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025 (up to 31.07.2025)
Mumbai	52	52	50	44	38
Kolkata	09	04	08	08	01
Chennai	08	03	04	02	01

Missing cases Region-wise

Region	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025 (up to 31.07.2025)
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Mumbai	16	25	19	15	07
Kolkata	02	02	02	03	--
Chennai	01	01	01	--	01

(b) The details of number of cases reported from Andhra Pradesh are as under:

Death Cases:

2021	2022	2023	2024	2025 (up to 31.07.2025)
04	04	09	06	--

Missing Cases:

2021	2022	2023	2024	2025 (up to 31.07.2025)
01	01	01	02	--

(c) The Government of India, through the Directorate General of Shipping (DGS), has been actively extending logistical and financial assistance to affected families of Seafarers by pursuing the matter at following levels:

- i. Engagement with Flag and Port States Authorities.
- ii. Consular Access via Indian Missions.
- iii. Coordination with Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways (MoPSW) and the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA).
- iv. Development of Standard Operating Procedures (SoP).

(d) The steps undertaken by the Government to strengthen verification protocols, grievance redressal systems, and welfare mechanisms for Indian seafarers employed abroad or on international routes are as follows:

- i. Submission of seafarer data in Articles of Agreement has been made online.
- ii. Recruitment and Placement of Seafarers is being monitored under Merchant Shipping (Recruitment and Placement of Seafarers) Rules, 2016.
- iii. The Labour Standards for Seafarers working on ships are being monitored under Merchant Shipping (Maritime Labour) Rules, 2016.
- iv. The Seafarers on overseas employment are being monitored through E-Migrate System and steps are taken by DG Shipping with Bureau of Immigration.
- v. Biometric Seafarers Identity Document (BSID) has been launched for easy identification of Indian Seafarers.
- vi. Merchant Shipping (CDC) Rules, 2017 have been notified for easy issuance of CDCs to Seafarers.
- vii. On-line complaint monitoring system has been put in place for proper filing and monitoring of complaint.
