

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO- 1513**  
ANSWERED ON 12/02/2026

**IRREGULAR MIGRATION TO EUROPE**

1513. SHRI SATNAM SINGH SANDHU

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :-

- (a) the number of Indian nationals who have attempted irregular migration to Europe through the “Dunki route” during the last three years;
- (b) the details of measures being taken in collaboration with foreign governments to dismantle trafficking networks and protect migrants from exploitation; and
- (c) the details of bilateral mechanism established to expedite repatriation or provide legal assistance to victims stranded abroad?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
(SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH)

(a to c) Government has been made aware of instances where dubious entities involved in fake recruitment job offers have lured Indian nationals including youth, mostly through social media channels for overseas employment to various countries, including to countries in Europe. Such fraudulent activities of illegal/unscrupulous recruitment agents in the country come to light as and when a complaint is filed by the aggrieved emigrants or their relatives/friends/family members, who have been cheated by their employers, since these Indian nationals proceed abroad on their own volition through fraudulent/unscrupulous recruitment agents and through illegal channels. Specific data on the number of Indian nationals who have attempted such irregular migration to Europe, is not available.

Government of India works in close coordination with relevant foreign Governments on matters pertaining to migration, including illegal migration of Indian citizens. India has signed Migration and Mobility Partnership Agreements (MMPA) with several European countries including Austria, France, Denmark, Italy, Germany, and the UK. These agreements aim to facilitate the safe and regular movement of skilled workers, researchers, professionals, specialists, students and apprentices from India. Joint Working Groups (JWGs) established within the MMPAs meet regularly to discuss matters related to returns and readmission, as well as the challenge of human trafficking.

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