

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1365
ANSWERED ON 30/07/2026

SAFETY OF INDIAN NATIONALS IN CONFLICT-AFFECTED REGIONS

1365. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of Indian nationals evacuated, assisted or provided consular support from conflict-affected regions since January this year till date;
- (b) the measures taken by Indian Missions abroad to ensure their safety and facilitate their return;
- (c) whether any new Standard Operating Procedures have been introduced for emergency evacuation and crisis response; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (d) Government accords utmost priority to the safety, security and well-being of the Indian nationals abroad, and has undertaken various operations to safely evacuate stranded Indian nationals from conflict regions. Details of India's evacuations/operations in last 2 years are attached at Annexure-I. In addition to aforementioned assistance, Government of India facilitated return of Indian nationals from West Asian countries to India since the onset of the Iran-US-Israel conflict by facilitating commercial flights, including non-scheduled operations, transit visas, local transportation, cross-border movements, etc.

Keeping in view the evolving situation in West Asia, Government implemented various measures to ensure safety, security and well-being of Indian nationals in the region. Government issued regular advisories to provide information on the situation and the available travel options, as well as guidance and information on contacting the Indian Embassy/Consulate for assistance. Indian Embassies and Consulates in the region set up 24x7 emergency helpline numbers to assist Indian nationals. The Ministry of External Affairs had also set up a dedicated Special Control Room to monitor the situation, respond to queries from the affected Indian nationals and their families, and for real-time coordination with Indian Embassies and Consulates for emergency cases.

The Ministry of External Affairs and the Indian Embassies and Consulates in the region coordinated closely with the respective local authorities in the impacted countries, as well as with the Ministry

of Civil Aviation, to facilitate the travel of stranded Indian passengers to India. Upon partial opening of airspace across the region, Government facilitated a number of commercial flights, including non-scheduled operations. In those countries where commercial flight operations were not available, Indian nationals were facilitated to obtain transit visa and travel to adjacent countries to embark on available flights. Government's assistance was also extended in cases of medical emergencies, Board examination of Indian students, temporary arrangements of food and shelter, relocation of Indian nationals within and outside the country, cross-border movements, issuance of necessary travel documents, viz., tatkal passports, emergency certificates, Police Clearance Certificates, expiring visas, etc. Indian Embassies and Consulates in these regions also continued to extend regular consular services and emergency assistance amid the crisis.

To ensure safety, security and well-being of the Indian nationals abroad, Government utilizes a structured, multi-layered mechanism, consisting of regular advisories, setting up additional emergency helplines and 24x7 control rooms, and launching of evacuation operations where necessary. Government also provides logistical support including safe shelter, meals, local and cross-border movement and transportation and evacuation flights as needed.

With a view to swiftly responding to crisis situations faced by overseas Indian nationals, the Rapid Response Cell (RRC) of the Ministry of External Affairs coordinates with concerned agencies, services, armed forces, and Ministries to ensure seamless coordination for execution of evacuation operations. The Ministry of External Affairs has also developed and is undertaking final trials of a digital emergency response solution for use during evacuation operations.

Details of evacuations/operations undertaken by Government during last 2 years in conflict affected regions

Year	Country & Name of the Operation	Number of evacuated Indian nationals
2024	Haiti Operation Indravati	17
2024-25	Syria	86
2022-25	Iraq	135
2024	Kuwait (Special Humanitarian Airlift of deceased Indian nationals)	45 (mortal remains)
2025	Iran Operation Sindhu	3597 (excluding 14 OCI Card holders and 14 foreign nationals)
2025	Israel Operation Sindhu	818
2025-26	Repatriation of Indian nationals forced to work in cyber-scam centres alongside Myanmar-Thailand Border	1741
2025	Sri Lanka HADR Operation Sagar Bandhu	2500 (424 Indians evacuated by special IAF flights on gratis basis and 2076 Indians were facilitated to return by commercial flights)
2026	Iran via Armenia (Cross-border movement of Indian nationals from Iran via Armenia to return by available flights during recent West Asia crisis)	2557
