

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.4414  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 14.12.2016**

**INDIANS ACROSS THE WORLD**

**4414. SHRI RABINDRA KUMAR JENA:**

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

- (a) the number of Non-Resident Indians, Overseas Citizen of India and Persons of Indian Origin currently living outside India, country-wise; and**
- (b) the various benefits provided by the Government for all these three category of people and the details of funds spent in this regard during the last three years?**

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
[GEN. (DR) V. K. SINGH (RETD)]**

**(a) Since inception of the OCI scheme in December 2005, 23,60,626 PIOs have been issued OCI Cards till 06.12.2016. A statement indicating estimated country-wise population of NRIs and PIOs, compiled on the basis of inputs received from Indian Missions abroad is attached as Annexure-I.**

**(b) PIOs are not entitled to any specific benefits unless they become OCI Cardholders. No funds are spent by the Government on extending benefits to NRIs and OCI Cardholders. A statement about facilities/benefits extended by the Government to NRIs and OCI Cardholders is attached as Annexure-II.**

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## Annexure-I

Sl. No.	Country	Non-Resident Indians (NRIs)	Persons of Indian Origin (PIOs)	Total No. of Overseas Indians (Including NRIs & PIOs)
1	Afghanistan	2,960	9	2,969
2	Albania	50	-	50
3	Algeria	3,200	19	3,219
4	Andorra*	140	0	140
5	Angola	1,500	2,500	4,000
6	Anguilla*	NA	0	0
7	Antigua & Barbuda	450	300	750
8	Argentina	600	1,800	2,400
9	Armenia	1,465	23	1,488
10	Aruba*	-	1,000	1,000
11	Australia	2,41,000	2,55,000	4,96,000
12	Austria and Montenegro	15,500	4,500	20,000
13	Azerbaijan	1,694	83	1,777
14	Bahamas	300	100	400
15	Bahrain	3,11,439	3,154	3,14,593
16	Bangladesh**	10,385	5	10,390
17	Barbados	100	2,114	2,214
18	Belarus	280	60	340
19	Belgium	10,651	8,000	18,651
20	Belize*	200	1,300	1,500
21	Benin	1,563	0	1,563
22	Bhutan	60,000	0	60,000
23	Bolivia	50	10	60
24	Bonaire & Smaller Islands*	-	200	200
25	Bosnia & Herzegovina	23	1	24
26	Botswana**	9,000	3,000	12,000
27	Brazil	832	393	1,225
28	British Virgin Islands	75	3	78
29	Brunei Darussalam	11,500	98	11,598
30	Bulgaria	100	62	162
31	Burkina Faso	200	5	205
32	Burundi	465	35	500
33	Cambodia	1,400	10	1,410
34	Cameroon	245	0	245
35	Canada	1,84,320	8,31,865	10,16,185
36	Cape Verde Islands*	20	0	20
37	Cayman Islands	1,500	100	1,600
38	Central African Republic *	10	0	10
39	Chad	120	0	120
40	Chile	850	2,000	2,850
41	China	55,500	511	56,011
42	China (Hong Kong)	45,000	6,430	51,430
43	China (Taiwan)*	2,444	128	2,572
44	Colombia	201	174	375
45	Comoros	50	200	250
46	Congo (Dem. Rep. of)*	9,000	25	9,025
47	Congo (Republic of)*	350	8	358
48	Cook Island*	5	1,000	1,005
49	Costa Rica	230	20	250
50	Cote d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast)	1,500	0	1,500
51	Croatia	42	38	80

52	Cuba	500	200	700
53	Curacao*	-	1,500	1,500
54	Cyprus	5,730	21	5,751
55	Czech Republic	1,800	600	2,400
56	Denmark	8,100	3,100	11,200
57	Djibouti	350	0	350
58	Dominica (Commonwealth of)	50	500	550
59	Dominican Republic	100	75	175
60	East Timor*	70	0	70
61	Ecuador*	43	21	64
62	Egypt	3,500	265	3,765
63	El Salvador	3	3	6
64	Equatorial Guinea	250	0	250
65	Eritrea	1,000	3	1,003
66	Estonia	450	50	500
67	Ethiopia**	5,235	15	5,250
68	Fiji	800	2,74,406	2,75,206
69	Finland	5,500	1,500	7,000
70	France	19,000	1,60,000	1,79,000
71	France (Reunion Island)	250	2,80,000	2,80,250
72	France (Guadeloupe, St. Martinique, Mayotte) *	420	66,800	67,220
73	Gabon	100	10	110
74	Gambia*	600	15	615
75	Georgia	3,228	8	3,236
76	Germany	76,093	67,029	1,43,122
77	Ghana	10,000	0	10,000
78	Greece**	12,319	181	12,500
79	Grenada	200	5,000	5,200
80	Guatemala	84	33	117
81	Guinea (Republic of)	700	0	700
82	Guinea Bissau*	100	3	103
83	Guyana	300	2,97,493	2,97,793
84	Haiti	580	0	580
85	Holy See*	NA	0	0
86	Honduras	13	2	15
87	Hungary	902	98	1,000
88	Iceland	225	80	305
89	Indonesia	10,000	1,00,000	1,10,000
90	Iran	4,000	150	4,150
91	Iraq	10,000	0	10,000
92	Ireland	17,000	9,000	26,000
93	Israel	12,467	85,000	97,467
94	Italy	1,72,301	25,000	1,97,301
95	Jamaica	4,000	70,000	74,000
96	Japan	28,047	670	28,717
97	Jordan	11,000	82	11,082
98	Kazakhstan	5,500	250	5,750
99	Kenya	21,500	78,000	99,500
100	Kiribati*	-	50	50
101	Korea (DPR)	12	0	12
102	Korea (Republic of)	10,869	299	11,168
103	Kuwait	9,09,062	1,590	9,10,652
104	Kyrgyzstan	100	28	128
105	Laos, PDR	425	75	500
106	Latvia	604	20	624

107	<b>Lebanon</b>	8,000	30	8,030
108	<b>Lesotho (Kingdom of )*</b>	500	1,000	1,500
109	<b>Liberia</b>	3,000	0	3,000
110	<b>Libya</b>	1,500	2	1,502
111	<b>Liechtenstein (Principality of )*</b>	5	5	10
112	<b>Lithuania*</b>	250	50	300
113	<b>Luxembourg</b>	500	500	1,000
114	<b>Macedonia</b>	10	5	15
115	<b>Madagascar</b>	2,500	19,500	22,000
116	<b>Malaysia</b>	2,44,274	19,92,000	22,36,274
117	<b>Malawi</b>	2,500	8,000	10,500
118	<b>Maldives</b>	25,000	108	25,108
119	<b>Mali</b>	1	0	1
120	<b>Malta</b>	300	65	365
121	<b>Marshall Islands (Republic of)*</b>	14	1	15
122	<b>Mauritania*</b>	200	0	200
123	<b>Mauritius</b>	10,500	8,84,000	8,94,500
124	<b>Mexico*</b>	1,750	250	2,000
125	<b>Micronesia*</b>	1	0	1
126	<b>Moldova</b>	190	10	200
127	<b>Mongolia</b>	150	5	155
128	<b>Montserrat</b>	40	200	240
129	<b>Morocco</b>	300	20	320
130	<b>Mozambique</b>	1,500	20,000	21,500
131	<b>Myanmar</b>	8,337	20,00,000	20,08,337
132	<b>Namibia</b>	200	59	259
133	<b>Nauru*</b>	2	0	2
134	<b>Nepal</b>	6,00,000	0	6,00,000
135	<b>Netherlands</b>	25,000	2,00,000	2,25,000
136	<b>Netherlands Antilles*</b>	-	2,700	2,700
137	<b>New Zealand</b>	75,000	1,25,000	2,00,000
138	<b>Nicaragua</b>	6	6	12
139	<b>Niger</b>	150	0	150
140	<b>Nigeria</b>	40,000	35	40,035
141	<b>Norway</b>	7,718	12,300	20,018
142	<b>Oman</b>	7,95,082	919	7,96,001
143	<b>Pakistan</b>	0	0	0
144	<b>Palau (Republic of)*</b>	15	0	15
145	<b>Palestine (PLO)</b>	65	0	65
146	<b>Panama</b>	4,000	9,000	13,000
147	<b>Papua New Guinea*</b>	1,400	100	1,500
148	<b>Paraguay</b>	200	400	600
149	<b>Peru</b>	400	50	450
150	<b>Philippines</b>	1,00,000	15,000	1,15,000
151	<b>Poland</b>	4,000	600	4,600
152	<b>Portugal</b>	6,935	65,000	71,935
153	<b>Qatar</b>	6,00,000	Nil	6,00,000
154	<b>Romania</b>	500	210	710
155	<b>Russian Federation</b>	28,610	1,950	30,560
156	<b>Rwanda</b>	2,940	60	3,000
157	<b>Samoa*</b>	40	30	70
158	<b>San Marino*</b>	NA	0	0
159	<b>Sao Tome and Principe (Rep. of)</b>	50	0	50
160	<b>Saudi Arabia</b>	30,50,000	3,567	30,53,567
161	<b>Senegal</b>	1,100	31	1,131

162	Sarbia *	25	19	44
163	Seychelles	5,000	5,000	10,000
164	Sierra Leone	900	50	950
165	Singapore	3,50,000	3,00,000	6,50,000
166	Slovak Repulic	130	50	180
167	Slovenia	80	50	130
168	Soloman Islands*	20	0	20
169	Somalia	100	0	100
170	South Africa	60,000	15,00,000	15,60,000
171	Spain	35,308	20,000	55,308
172	Sri Lanka	14,000	16,00,000	16,14,000
173	St. Kitts and Nevis	250	1,100	1,350
174	St. Lucia	250	5,005	5,255
175	St. Maartin*	-	5,300	5,300
176	St. Vincent & the Grenadines	50	3,000	3,050
177	Sudan	3,400	100	3,500
178	South Sudan	500	Nil	500
179	Suriname	150	1,54,321	1,54,471
180	Swaziland	500	500	1,000
181	Sweden	12,500	9,000	21,500
182	Switzerland	13,295	6,738	20,033
183	Syria	107	0	107
184	Tajikistan	590	20	610
185	Tanzania	10,000	50,000	60,000
186	Thailand	20,000	1,75,000	1,95,000
187	Togo	500	10	510
188	Tonga*	20	4	24
189	Trinidad & Tobago	1,800	5,55,000	5,56,800
190	Tunisia	121	11	132
191	Turkey	847	64	911
192	Turkmenistan	309	-	309
193	Turks & Caicos Islands	200	35	235
194	Tuvalu*	-	50	50
195	Uganda	23,500	6,500	30,000
196	Ukraine	5,737	317	6,054
197	UAE	28,00,000	3,751	28,03,751
198	UK	3,25,000	15,00,000	18,25,000
199	USA	17,39,818	39,03,296	60,68,114
200	Uruguay	500	30	530
201	Uzbekistan	650	43	693
202	Vanuatu*	75	25	100
203	Venezuela	75	40	115
204	Vietnam	2,600	2,120	4,720
205	Yemen	400	10,000	10,400
206	Zambia	5,000	15,000	20,000
207	Zimbabwe	500	9,000	9,500
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,34,53,533</b>	<b>1,78,58,825</b>	<b>3,17,37,358</b>

\* Info as per 2015 data

\*\* Only PIO info as per 2015 data

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**FACILITIES TO NRIs\***

*\*On the basis of inputs received from Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion, Ministry of Commerce & Industry.*

The Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion formulates FDI policy across various sectors, including investments from NRIs. The extant policy allows special dispensation for NRI investments in construction development and civil aviation sector. Further, the investment made by Non-Resident Indians under schedule 4 of FEMA (Transfer or issue of Security by Persons Resident Outside India) Regulations is deemed to be domestic investment at par with the investment made by residents.

**BENEFITS TO OCIs**

Facilities provided to Overseas Citizens of India (OCI) Cardholders under Section 7B (1) of the Citizenship Act, 1955 are as follows:-

- Multiple entry lifelong visa
- Exemption from registration in FRRO irrespective of duration of stay
- Parity with NRIs in economic, financial and educational fields in India except acquisition of agricultural or plantation property
- Parity with NRIs
  - for inter-country adoption of Indian children
  - for air fares in domestic sector
  - for entry fee to national parks and wild life sanctuaries in India
  - for visiting national monuments, historical sites and museums in India
  - for practice as medical professionals, advocates, architects and CAs
  - to appear in AIPMT and other entrance tests for technical courses in India
- Permission to OCIs to file an affidavit to declare their address in India

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