

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1566
TO BE ANSWERED ON 19.12.2018

CUSTODIAL DEATHS OF INDIANS ABROAD

1566. SHRI MD. BADARUDDOZA KHAN:

Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has any report on custodial deaths of Indians in different jails of foreign countries;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the number of Indians currently in foreign countries prisons, country-wise; and
- (d) the action taken by the Government with its counterparts to give justice to these imprisoned Indians and bring them back?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b) As per information available with the Ministry, 40 Indian nationals died while serving their sentences in jails of 15 foreign countries.

(c) 8445 Indian nationals are in prisons in 68 foreign countries. Due to strict provisions of privacy laws, some countries do not readily share information about Indian nationals in their jails. Country-wise details are at Annexure.

(d) The safety, security and well-being of Indians abroad is among the top priorities for the Government of India. Our Missions and Posts abroad remain vigilant and closely monitor any incident of attack/complaints of mistreatment against Indians. Such incidents are immediately taken up with the concerned authorities for taking action, as appropriate, to ensure that the cases are properly investigated and guilty punished. In some countries, where pro bono lawyers are available, the Mission arranges legal assistance to the Indian prisoners. In those cases, where Indian nationals complete their sentences and are waiting for completion of deportation formalities, Indian Missions/Posts in those countries take up the matter with the respective foreign governments for speeding up the process including issue of final exit visas, waiver of penalties imposed on Indian workers, etc. from the concerned authorities and for the early return of the Indian nationals to India. Where required, the Indian Missions and Posts abroad also provide airfare for facilitating the return of the Indian prisoners who have completed their sentence.

ANNEXURE- I

S. No.	Country	The number of Indians in foreign prisons reported
1	Armenia	10
2	Australia	71
3	Austria	5
4	Azerbaijan	4
5	Bahrain	121
6	Bangladesh	40
7	Belarus	1
8	Belgium	22
9	Bhutan	66
10	Brazil	2
11	Brunei	1
12	Cambodia	3
13	China	234
14	Cote D' Ivoire	3
15	Cuba	1
16	Cyprus	7
17	Denmark	5
18	Fiji	1
19	Finland	1
20	France	33
21	Germany	51
22	Ghana	1
23	Greece	27
24	Indonesia	22
25	Iran	5
26	Iraq	1
27	Israel	2
28	Italy	230
29	Japan	7
30	Jordan	26
31	Korea (Republic of)	2
32	Kuwait	483
33	Kyrgyzstan	2
34	Lao PDR	2
35	Lebanon	5
36	Malaysia	497
37	Maldives	12
38	Mauritius	1
39	Mexico	1
40	Mozambique	2
41	Myanmar	56
42	Nepal	1065
43	Netherlands	1
44	New Zealand	13
45	Nigeria	1

46	Oman	59
47	Pakistan	549
48	Panama	1
49	Portugal	5
50	Qatar	212
51	Russian Federa- tion	3
52	Saudi Arabia	2224
53	Senegal	1
54	Singapore	117
55	South Africa	6
56	South Sudan	1
57	Spain	41
58	Sri Lanka	66
59	Sweden	2
60	Tanzania	4
61	Thailand	43
62	Uganda	1
63	Ukraine	1
64	United Arab Emi- rates	1606
65	United Kingdom	267
66	U.S.A	88
67	Vietnam	1
68	Yemen	1
	TOTAL	8445