

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.659
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06.02.2019

UTILIZATION OF ICWF

659. SHRI RABINDRA KUMAR JENA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry have data on the percentage utilization of the Indian Community Welfare Fund (ICWF) by Indian Missions for repatriation of Indian prisoners;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Ministry have also data on the person-wise utilization of the ICWF; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, reasons therefor?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

[GEN. (DR) V. K. SINGH (RETD)]

(a) to (d) The Indian Community Welfare Fund (ICWF) is aimed at assisting Indian nationals abroad in times of distress and emergency in the 'deserving cases' on a 'means tested basis'. In view of its immense utility, ICWF stands extended to all Indian Missions and Posts abroad.

The revised ICWF guidelines, operational w.e.f. September 1, 2017, have been made more broad-based and have expanded the scope of welfare measures that can be extended through the Fund.

Since January, 2014 - September, 2018, over 25000 Indians have been provided air passages from the Fund. However, separate data related to number of prisoners repatriated through ICWF is not available.
