

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.5118  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 24.07.2019

**INDIANS IN FOREIGN JAILS**

†5118. SHRI CHANDESHWAR PRASAD:  
SHRIMATI MANEKA SANJAY GANDHI:  
DR. VIRENDRA KUMAR:  
SHRI MANSUKHBHAI DHANJIBHAI VASAVA:  
SHRI T.N. PRATHAPAN:  
SHRI K. NAVASKANI:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has any data of Indians who are presently in the jails in various foreign countries;
- (b) if so, the country, crime/case and gender-wise details in this regard;
- (c) whether the Government has taken any measures to get them released from jails and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the data of Indians saved from jails in the past ten years, year-wise;
- (e) the details of help and assistance provided by/being provided by Indian embassies and consulates as per the policy of the country;
- (f) whether any negotiation of exchanging prisoners happened while saving Indians from the jails of other countries; and
- (g) if so, the details of such negotiations happened and the data of exchanged prisoners?

ANSWER  
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

[SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN]

(a) & (b) As per the information available with the Ministry, the number of Indian prisoners in foreign jails as of 31.05.2019 is 8189 which also includes under-trials. Country-wise detailed list is given at Annexure. However, due to strong privacy laws prevailing in many countries, the local authorities do not share information on prisoners unless the person concerned consents to the disclosure of such information. Even countries which share information do not generally provide detailed information about the people of foreign countries imprisoned.

(c) & (d) The Government through its Missions/ Posts abroad and during high level visits takes up and pursues grant of amnesty/ commutation of sentences of Indian prisoners in foreign countries. Since May 2014 to present, a total of 6405 Indian nationals have been either pardoned or their term of sentence has been reduced by foreign Governments.

(e) The Government attaches the highest priority to the safety, security and well-being of Indians in foreign countries, including those in the foreign jails. Indian Missions / Posts abroad remain vigilant and closely

monitor the incidents of Indian nationals being put in jail in foreign countries for violation of local laws or alleged violation of local laws. Apart from extending them all possible consular assistance, Indian Missions and Posts also assist in providing legal aid wherever needed. Missions and Posts also maintain a local panel of lawyers where Indian community is in sizeable numbers.

(f) & (g) There is a regular process of consultation and coordination with countries concerned on the issue of repatriation of Indian nationals in foreign prisons including in the context of bilateral agreements for Transfer of Sentenced Persons (TSP). India has signed Transfer of Sentenced Persons Agreement with 31 countries. India has also acceded to/ ratified the multilateral Inter-American Convention on Serving Criminal Sentences Abroad in May 2014 and the multilateral Council of Europe Convention on Transfer of Sentenced Persons in January 2018. By virtue of the bilateral agreements and accession to multilateral conventions, sentenced persons from these countries can be transferred to India and vice-versa. Since 2010 till June 2019, total 58 Indian prisoners have been transferred to India.

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S. No.	Name of Country	Total number of Indians in foreign jails (convicts & under trials)	Sex-wise	Offence-wise
1	Armenia	9	N/A	N/A
2	Austria	5	N/A	Murder etc.
3	Australia	78	N/A	Sexual offence, armed robbery, stalking, murder, drugs etc.
4	Azerbaijan	3	N/A	N/A
5	Bahrain	134	N/A	Theft, bribe, alcohol consumption, financial fraud etc.
6	Belarus	1	1 – Male	Human trafficking etc.
7	Bangladesh	58	30 – Male 4 – Female 24 – N/A	Narcotics act, Arms act, smuggling, illegal entry, human trafficking etc.
8	Belgium	12	12 - Male	Various criminal offences etc.
9	Bhutan	53	51-Male 2-Female	Drugs, Robbery, counterfeiting etc.
10	Brazil	2	2-Male	Illegal entry etc.
11	Brunei	1	N/A	Murder
12	Cambodia	3	3 – Male	Drug trafficking, sexual offence, ATM fraud case etc.
13	Canada	70	N/A	Murder, Sexual interference etc.
14	China	270	229 - Male 13 - Female	Drug smuggling, Murder, theft, contract forgery etc.
15	Colombia	5	N/A	N/A
16	Congo	4	N/A	N/A
17	Cote D' Ivoire	1	1 – Male	Commercial dispute
18	Cuba	1	1 – Male	drug trafficking
19	Cyprus	11	N/A	Murder, Drugs smuggling/possession, physical assault, culpable homicide, traffic accident, burglary, sexual abuse, attempt to murder, drink and driving, etc.
20	Denmark	5	5 – Male	Illegal stay & Murder etc.
21	Egypt	2	1 – Male	Drug trafficking
22	Fiji	1	1 – Female	Drugs
23	Finland	1	N/A	NA
24	France	38	11 - Male 1 – Female 26-N/A	Attempt to murder, murder, sexual abuse, boarder crossing and fighting with the employer, etc.
25	Germany	59	N/A	NA
26	Ghana	1	1 – Male	Misappropriation of funds
27	Guatemala	2	2 – Male	N/A
28	Hungary	3	N/A	forged visa etc.
29	Indonesia	19	17 – Male 2 – Female	Narcotics etc.
30	Iran	18	N/A	Oil smuggling etc.
31	Iraq	4	4 – Male	fake travel document, drug smuggling and impersonation etc.
32	Israel	7	4 - Male 3 – Female	Murder and visa violation etc.
33	Italy	242	N/A	NA
34	Japan	7	7 – Male	Murder cum robbery, narcotics, murder etc.
35	Jordan	25	N/A	Murder, kidnapping, drug abuse, etc.
36	Korea (Republic of)	3	3 – Male	fake passport and unfair trade practices etc.
37	Kuwait	511	N/A	Murder, drug charges etc.
38	Kyrgyzstan	2	2 – Male	Economic offence and forging educational documents etc.
39	Lao PDR	2	N/A	Human trafficking and cheating case etc.
40	Lebanon	5	5 – Male	Murder and kidnapping etc.
41	Madagascar	15	N/A	N/A
42	Malaysia	576	N/A	Drug smuggling, immigration violation, murder, rape etc.

43	Maldives	14	14 – Male	Drug trafficking etc.
44	Malta	1	N/A	N/A
45	Mauritius	4	4 – Male	Drug smuggling etc.
46	Mexico	2	N/A	N/A
47	Mozambique	6	6 – Male	Kidnapping etc.
48	Myanmar	61	N/A	Immigration offence etc.
49	Nepal	1160	N/A	Murder, rape, drugs and arms smuggling, robbery, kidnapping, organized crime etc.
50	Netherlands	1	N/A	Murder
51	New Zealand	13	N/A	NA
52	Nigeria	1	1 – Male	Oil smuggling
53	Oman	101	N/A	Drugs smuggling, oil smuggling and fight with employers etc.
54	Pakistan	48	N/A	Illegal stay and illegal boarder crossing etc.
55	Panama	1	1 – Male	Human trafficking
56	Phillipines	34	N/A	Kidnapping, murder, narcotics etc.
57	Poland	5	5 – Male	sexual abuse, murder etc.
58	Portugal	5	Male-5	Murder, drug trafficking etc.
59	Qatar	257	205 - Male 7 – Female 45 – NA	Check bounced, drug trafficking, murder, bribery etc.
60	Russian Federation	6	6 – Male	drugs smuggling, financial fraud, selling fake drugs, illegal boarder crossing, murder etc.
61	Saudi Arabia	1811	N/A	Alcohol, Accident, Bribery, cheating, drugs, Murder, Kidnapping etc.
62	Singapore	111	97 - Male 4 – Female 10 – N/A	Commercial crime, drug offence, property dispute, traffic offence etc.
63	Slovenia	2	N/A	N/A
64	South Africa	6	6 – Male	Economic offence, murder and sexual offences etc.
65	Spain	21	N/A	N/A
66	Sri Lanka	111	71 - Male 1 – Female 39-N/A	Drug and gold smuggling, human trafficking, visa violation and IT fraud etc.
67	Sweden	2	N/A	N/A
68	Tanzania	1	1 – Male	Murder
69	Thailand	44	N/A	NA
70	Turkey	2	2 – Male	Kidnapping, terrorism etc.
71	Uganda	1	1 – Male	Embezzlement of funds
72	United Arab Emirates	1392	N/A	Murder, Drugs, Alcohol, Cheque bounced, financial frauds etc.
73	United Kingdom	6	N/A	NA
74	United States of America	689	N/A	Illegal stay and various crimes etc.
75	Vietnam	1	1 – Male	Robbery
76	<b>Total</b>	<b>8189</b>		

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