

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO- 4845
ANSWERED ON- 31/03/2023

MIGRATION OF INDIAN CITIZENS

4845. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH
SHRI M.K. RAGHAVAN
SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI

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

- (a) whether the Government has maintained any data regarding the number of Indians who have renounced their Indian citizenship and settled abroad since 2019 till date, if so, the details thereof indicating the number of High Net Worth individuals out of the above, State-wise including Kerala;
- (b) the number of citizenship granted by India, since 2019;
- (c) the number of people who have migrated to foreign countries during the year 2021-22 in search of employment, State-wise including Kerala;
- (d) whether the Government has observed large scale brain drain of educated youths from Kerala to foreign countries, if so, the details thereof along with the steps taken by the Government in this regard; and
- (e) the steps taken to check this outflow of Indian Citizens and country's wealth?

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 Indians who renounced their Indian citizenship was 1,31,489 (in 2015); 1,41,603 (in 2016); 1,33,049 (in 2017); 1,34,561 (in 2018); 1,44,017 (in 2019); 85,256 (in 2020); 1,63,370 (in 2021) & 2,25,620 (in 2022). For reference purpose, numbers were 1,22,819 (in 2011); 1,20,923 (in 2012); 1,31,405 (in 2013); 1,29,328 (in 2014). From 2019-2022, citizenship of India has been granted to 5590 applicants.

(c) Bureau of Immigration (BoI), MHA maintains departure and arrival data of Indians. Details are captured manually based either on their verbal disclosure or the type of visa of the destination country produced by them at the time of according immigration clearance. As per available records with BoI, the number of Indians who departed to foreign countries for the purpose of employment was 8,33,880 (in 2021) and 23,44,860 (in 2022). State-wise data is not available.

(d & e) There are no restrictions on Indian nationals, including from Kerala regarding travelling to foreign countries for employment. Some of them settle down in their country of employment and acquire foreign nationality for personal reasons.

The Government has brought about a transformational change in its engagement with Indian diaspora. A successful, prosperous, and influential diaspora is an asset for India. India stands to gain a lot from tapping its diaspora networks and productive utilization of the soft power that comes from having such a flourishing diaspora. The Government's efforts are also aimed at harnessing the diaspora potential to its fullest including through sharing of knowledge and expertise.
