

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-276
ANSWERED ON- 21/07/2023

DEPORTION OF ILLEGAL EMIGRANTS

276. MS. RAMYA HARIDAS

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

- (a) the number of Indian nationals who were identified as illegal emigrants and deported to India from foreign countries during the last three years, country-wise;
- (b) the number of Indians arrested in foreign land on this ground and the number of them who have been released so far;
- (c) whether the Government/Indian Missions intervened in ensuring release of such detained Indians abroad and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the number of Indians deported during the last five years for other reasons, country-wise?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

(SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN)

(a & b) Many foreign countries do not provide information on illegal stay in their countries, except when they are under orders of deportation and travel document/nationality verification is required. As such, our Missions and Posts do not have any reliable data on the number of Indians staying or working illegally in foreign countries. The procedure followed for deportation of foreign nationals also varies from country to country. Some countries do not arrest the deportee and keep them in detention/deportation centers instead until deportation. Moreover, the information about arrest/detention and deportation is not shared with Indian Missions/Posts and the deportation is done directly by the host Government if the deportee has valid travel document. Our Missions/Posts are contacted by the host Governments only in such cases where the nationality verification and issuance of Emergency Certificate (EC) to the deportee is required.

(c) The Government enables legal travel and stay of Indian nationals abroad. Whenever any detention of an Indian national for violation of immigration laws is brought to our notice, our Missions/Posts abroad seek consular access and visit detention centres where Indian nationals are detained. After confirmation of Indian nationality, our Missions/Posts abroad issue Emergency Certificates to Indian nationals, who do not hold valid Indian passports, to facilitate their return to India. The Mission/Post officials abroad also attend to labour/general court hearings against Indian nationals for violation of immigration laws from time to time. Some of our Missions/Posts abroad also issue advisories to Indian nationals counselling them to regularize their visas and residency documents in the country of their stay.

(d) Since all foreign countries do not share details of all Indian deportees, the exact number of Indians deported from foreign countries is not available with the Ministry of External Affairs.
