

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-340
FOR ANSWER ON- 21/07/2023

INDIAN LABOURERS IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES

†340. SHRI SANJAY SETH

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

- (a) whether a large number of Indian labourers are working in foreign countries;
- (b) if so, the State-wise total number of labourers currently working in foreign countries;
- (c) the details of the facilities provided by the Government to such labourers in case of death or accident;
- (d) the number of labourers from Jharkhand who died in foreign countries during the last 3 years; and
- (e) the details of the facilities provided to families of such deceased labour?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

(SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN)

(a & b) As per available data, there are around 13 million Indian nationals abroad who include labourers, professionals, and experts.

This Ministry maintains the data in respect of Indian workers, holding Emigration Check Required (ECR) passports, proceeding for overseas employment through e-Migrate portal to any of the 18 ECR countries. The State and UT-wise details of the Emigration Clearances granted to such workers migrated for overseas employment in these 18 ECR countries during the last three years are enclosed as **Annexure-A**.

(c) Whenever an Indian migrant worker dies abroad, the Indian Mission/Post concerned contacts family of the deceased and provides immediate necessary assistance such as completion of the procedures related to death registration, local cremation/burial or transportation of the mortal remains to India, investigation, settlement of end of service benefits and compensation from the employer as well as follow up the cases of death compensation with the local authorities, courts and insurance agencies.

The cases of accidental deaths of Indian citizens are investigated by the local police authorities/enforcement agencies of the host country. Our Missions/Posts abroad liaise with respective foreign Government to facilitate post-mortem or re-investigation, in cases where the families of deceased request for the same.

Our Mission/Posts abroad also utilise the Indian Community Welfare Fund (ICWF) to provide necessary assistance, including legal, on means tested basis to Indian citizens abroad and their dependents in times of distress including in the process of transportation of mortal remains to India or local cremation with the consent of the family and settlement of death claims.

In addition, the Pravasi Bharatiya Bima Yojana (PBBY) is a mandatory insurance scheme aimed at safeguarding the interests of ECR category Indian emigrant workers going for employment to ECR countries. The scheme provides an insurance cover of INR. 10 lakh and other benefits in case of accidental death or permanent disability leading to job loss, at a nominal insurance premium of INR 275/- for two years or INR 375/- for three years validity.

(d & e) As per the records available with the Ministry, the number of labourers from Jharkhand, who migrated to ECR countries, and died during the last 3 years are as below:

Name of the country	Number of labourers died from Jharkhand
Saudi Arabia	38
Oman	21
Malaysia	7
United Arab Emirates (UAE)	9
Kuwait	10
Qatar	6

The respective Indian Missions/Posts had provided the necessary assistance/facilities, as elaborated at point (c) above, to the next of the kin of the deceased.

ANNEXURE –A

Indian workers migrated to 18 ECR countries
(As per data available on e-Migrate portal)

States	2020	2021	2022	Up to June 2023	Total
UTTAR PRADESH	28911	35221	123702	70181	258015
BIHAR	13911	24526	60945	32343	131725
WEST BENGAL	7425	9917	31789	15713	64844
RAJASTHAN	6126	11345	28819	12249	58539
TAMIL NADU	6476	8830	23556	13545	52407
KERALA	8487	10560	16253	8416	43716
ANDHRA PRADESH	3882	5482	19347	6604	35315
PUNJAB	3317	5983	10654	5260	25214
TELANGANA	2984	4375	11990	5136	24485
ODISHA	2199	4179	6726	2857	15961
MAHARASHTRA	2592	2828	6846	3633	15899
KARNATAKA	1476	2143	5700	2956	12275
JAMMU & KASHMIR	1095	992	4868	2888	9843
JHARKHAND	831	1481	4322	2070	8704
GUJARAT	1494	1583	3438	1705	8220
UTTARAKHAND	821	864	3627	1905	7217
ASSAM	566	395	3594	1787	6342
DELHI	388	508	1569	790	3255
HARYANA	314	459	1232	718	2723
MADHYA PRADESH	220	232	1369	707	2528
TRIPURA	248	145	1197	734	2324
GOA	105	262	622	218	1207
ANDAMAN & NICOBAR	2	0	11	939	952
HIMACHAL PRADESH	115	145	414	231	905
PUDUCHERRY	75	123	318	174	690
CHANDIGARH	30	45	346	157	578
CHHATTISGARH	33	24	126	58	241
DAMAN & DIU	11	9	16	13	49
MANIPUR	4	9	13	10	36
MEGHALAYA	3	3	11	8	25
DADRA & NAGAR HAVELI	2	0	3	4	9
NAGALAND	1	4	2	2	9
SIKKIM	1	0	4	1	6
ARUNACHAL PRADESH	0	1	3	1	5
LAKSHADWEEP	0	0	2	1	3
MIZORAM	0	0	0	2	2
LADAKH	0	0	0	1	1
