

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION  
LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 1934  
(To be answered on the 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2020)**

**EVACUATION OF INDIAN NATIONALS STUCK ABROAD**

**1934. SHRI P.P. CHAUDHARY**

**Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION**

**नागर विमानन मंत्री**

**be pleased to state:-**

- (a) whether the Government has received requests from the families of the Indian nationals stuck abroad;**
- (b) if so, the details of action taken thereof;**
- (c) whether special flights were arranged for the evacuation of Indian nationals stuck in countries hit by COVID-19 and if so, the details thereof;**
- (d) whether fare was charged from the passengers and if so, the details thereof; and**
- (e) the details of the costs incurred in such special missions during lockdown, if any?**

**ANSWER**

**Minister of State (IC) in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION**

**नागर विमानन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (स्वतंत्र प्रभार)**

**(Shri Hardeep Singh Puri)**

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**(a), (b) & (c): Yes, Sir. The Government has received requests from families of Indian nationals stranded abroad. Requests were also registered in various Indian Embassies/Missions by the Indian nationals stranded in various countries. The Government has, therefore, undertaken the Vande Bharat Mission which is aimed at repatriation of stranded and distressed Indian nationals in various parts of the world due to the COVID-19 pandemic. As per information provided by the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), till 31.08.2020, more than 11 lakh Indians (excluding land border crossings) have returned to India under the Vande Bharat Mission.**

**The Vande Bharat Mission consists of special repatriation flights operated by Indian carriers and chartered flights operated by both Indian and foreign**

**carriers. As per information provided by the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), till 31.08.2020, a total of 5817 inbound flights have been operated under the Vande Bharat Mission. Out of these, 2292 flights have been operated by Air India Group while the remaining have been operated by private Indian carriers and foreign carriers.**

**(d) Fares were charged from the passengers based on country of origin and class of travel.**

**(e) The Ministry of Civil Aviation has not incurred any cost for the Vande Bharat Mission.**

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