

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No.4708
TO BE ANSWERED ON 24.03.2021**

INDIANS IN FOREIGN JAILS

4708. SHRIMATI MEENAKASHI LEKHI:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of Indians in foreign jails, country wise;
- (b) whether any of these Indians were infected with COVID-19 in prisons and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the measures being taken by the Government to provide assistance to these Indians; and
- (d) the number of prisoners exchanged by India with foreign countries through 'The Repatriation of Prisoners' Act?

ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
[SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN]

(a) As per the information available with the Ministry, the number of Indian prisoners in foreign jails as of 28.02.2021 is 7890, which also includes under-trials. Country-wise list is given at Annexure.

(b) Details about the number of Indian prisoners who were infected with COVID-19 is not available with the Ministry as 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) 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.

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).

In addition, the Government through its Missions/Posts abroad also takes up and pursues grant of amnesty / commutation of sentences of Indian prisoners in foreign countries.

(d) 81 prisoners, including 73 Indian prisoners, have been transferred to their country of nationality under the Repatriation of Prisoners Act, 2003 to serve the remainder of their sentence.

Annexure		
Indians in Foreign Jails		
S.No	Country	Number of Indians in Foreign Jails as on 28.02.2021
1	Afghanistan	0
2	Algeria	0
3	Angola	0
4	Argentina	0
5	Armenia	1
6	Austria	5
7	Australia	62
8	Azerbaijan	3
9	Bahrain	178
10	Barbados	0
11	Belarus	2
12	Bangladesh	123
13	Belgium	12
14	Bhutan	91
15	Botswana	1
16	Brazil	0
17	Brunei	3
18	Bulgaria	0
19	Burkina Faso	0
20	Cambodia	6
21	Cameroon	0
22	Canada	23
23	Chile	1
24	China	157
25	Congo	3
26	Colombia	1
27	Costa Rica	0
28	Cote D' Ivoire	2
29	Croatia	0
30	Cuba	1
31	Cyprus	23
32	Czech Republic	0
33	Denmark	4
34	Djibouti	1
35	Egypt	2
36	Equador	3
37	Equatorial Guinea	0
38	Eritrea	0
39	Estonia	0

40	Ethiopia	0
41	Fiji	1
42	Finland	0
43	France	35
44	Georgia	3
45	Germany	98
46	Ghana	1
47	Greece	22
48	Guatemala	2
49	Guinea	0
50	Guyana	0
51	Hungary	1
52	Iceland	0
53	Indonesia	20
54	Iran	70
55	Iraq	0
56	Ireland	1
57	Israel	1
58	Italy	221
59	Jamaica	0
60	Japan	8
61	Jordan	9
62	Kazakhstan	0
63	Kenya	1
64	Korea (DPR)	0
65	Korea (Republic of)	4
66	Kuwait	460
67	Kyrgyzstan	1
68	Laos PDR	2
69	Latvia	0
70	Lebanon	3
71	Liberia	1
72	Madagascar	1
73	Malawi	NA
74	Malaysia	409
75	Maldives	24
76	Mali	0
77	Malta	0
78	Mauritius	4
79	Mexico	1
80	Morocco	2
81	Mongolia	0
82	Mozambique	6
83	Myanmar	65
84	Namibia	0
85	Nepal	886

86	Netherlands	0
87	New Zealand	13
88	Nicaragua	0
89	Niger	0
90	Nigeria	0
91	Norway	0
92	Oman	49
93	Pakistan	524
94	Palestine	0
95	Panama	0
96	Papua New Guinea	0
97	Peru	0
98	Philippines	41
99	Poland	9
100	Portugal	5
101	Qatar	439
102	Rwanda	1
103	Romania	2
104	Russia	10
105	Sao Tome and Principe	0
106	Saudi Arabia	1570
107	Serbia	1
108	Senegal	0
109	Seychelles	0
110	Sierra Leone	0
111	Singapore	71
112	Slovakia	1
113	Slovenia	0
114	South Africa	3
115	South Sudan	0
116	Spain	49
117	Sri Lanka	67
118	St. Lucia	0
119	St. Vincent & Grenadines	0
120	Sudan	0
121	Suriname	1
122	Swaziland	0
123	Sweden	2
124	Switzerland	0
125	Syria	0
126	Tajikistan	0
127	Tanzania	1
128	Thailand	23
129	Togo	0
130	Trinidad & Tobago	2
131	Tunisia	0

132	Turkey	0
133	Turkmenistan	0
134	Uganda	0
135	United Arab Emirates	1292
136	United Kingdom	373
137	Ukraine	0
138	United States of America	267
139	Uzbekistan	0
140	Venezuela	0
141	Vietnam	2
142	Yemen	1
143	Zambia	0
144	Zimbabwe	0
	Total	7890
