GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION No. 99 TO BE ANSWERED ON 03.12.2021

DEATH OF INDIANS ABROAD

†*99. SHRI VIJAY BAGHEL:

SHRI SUNIL KUMAR SONI:

Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state:

- (a) the details and the number of Indians employed abroad who died in accidents during the last three years, year-wise and country-wise;
- (b) the details of the pending cases in which the family of deceased person has not received proper compensation or justice, countrywise; and
- (c) whether a Committee is being constituted for disposal of such cases and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (DR. SUBRAHMANYAM JAISHANKAR)

(a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (A) to (C) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. *99 REGARDING "DEATH OF INDIANS ABROAD" TO BE ANSWERED ON 03.12.2021.

- (a) During the past three years, 2384 Indian nationals died due to accidents in 63 countries. Highest numbers were reported from Saudi Arabia 683, UAE 370, Nepal 227, Kuwait 195, Philippines 153, Oman 94, Malaysia 76, Qatar 60 and Singapore 55. Detailed information of Indian employed abroad who died in accidents during the last three years, year-wise and country-wise is at annexure I.
- (b) As per data available, 468 pending cases of death compensation are registered with Indian Missions/Posts, country-wise details is at annexure-II.
- (c) The CPV Division in the Ministry of External Affairs is the nodal Division and has a well-established mechanism/SOPs to coordinate with concerned Missions/Posts abroad to provide help to Indian national abroad in distress including in cases of accidental deaths and transportation of mortal remains to India. The Government attaches the highest priority to the safety, security and well-being of Indians abroad.

Salient features of consular assistance provided by our Missions/Posts to families of Indian nationals who died abroad including in cases of accidental deaths are as follows:

- (i) Registration of death in the Mission/Post abroad: There exists a single window clearance in all Indian Missions/Posts for such cases. As soon as the Embassy comes to know of such unfortunate death of an Indian citizen, the Consular Wing of the Missions/ Posts immediately gets in touch with the family/relative of the deceased Indian national as well as the local authorities to facilitate the completion of necessary formalities in coordination with the local police authorities and transportation of mortal remains in accordance with the wishes of the family of the deceased at the earliest possible.
- (ii) Transportation of mortal remains: Indian Missions/ Posts liaise with different authorities in the foreign country and concerned state authorities, for
- Medical report / death certificate issued from the hospital concerned;

- Police report (with English translation, if report is in some other language), in case of accidental or unnatural death;
- Consent letter from next of kin of the deceased for local cremation / burial / transportation of mortal remains;
- Clearance and arrangements for embalming of mortal remains from the authorities concerned in the foreign country;
- Clearance from local immigration/ customs department.
- Clearance from Indian customs authorities.
 - These procedures differ from country to country; therefore there is no fixed time frame for transportation.
- (iii) Help in death compensation cases: Our Missions/Posts assist the family members of deceased in filing cases of death compensation and to fulfill required documentation formalities in such cases. These include documents required for pursuing the case of death compensation in courts in foreign countries on behalf of the legal heirs of the deceased, in cases accidental deaths or traffic accident or murder, after receiving police report.
- a. Legal Heirship Certificate (LHC): This should be obtained from the competent authorities of respective state governments in India.
- b. Power of Attorney (POA): Power of Attorney should be executed in favour of any of relative/friend/representative or any other person who can attend the court proceedings on behalf of legal heirs. Missions/Posts also provide assistance in preparation of such documents.
- iv. Steps taken by Ministry of External Affairs for awareness and preventive measures:
- a. Departing workers are made aware of their rights and responsibilities through the Pre-Departure Orientation Training (PDOT) and local language based Media Awareness Campaign.
- b. The on-line MADAD portal enables emigrant workers and their family members to register their consular grievances on-line and track their redressal.

- c. Grievances can also be lodged by emigrants/relatives through the Pravasi Bharatiya Sahayata Kendra (PBSK) on e-Migrate portal. These grievances are settled by respective Protectors of Emigrants (PoEs), as per laid down procedures.
- d. A multi-lingual 24X7 Helpline of Pravasi Bharatiya Sahayata Kendra (PBSK) in New Delhi provides information, guidance and grievance redressal on all issues and problems pertaining to overseas employment of Indian nationals. Pravasi Bharatiya Sahayata Kendras (PBSK) have also been set up at Dubai (UAE), Riyadh, Jeddah (Kingdom of Saudi Arabia) and Kuala Lumpur (Malaysia). Kshetriya Pravasi Sahayata Kendras (KPSK) have been setup in Kochi, Hyderabad, Chennai, Lucknow and Delhi.
- e. Indian Missions/Posts conduct Open Houses on a regular basis where Indian community members/ workers can seek redressal of their grievances.
- f. Grievances brought to the notice of the Ministry and the Missions/Posts through social media, including Twitter, are promptly addressed.
- g. The Missions/Posts utilise the Indian Community Welfare Fund (ICWF) to provide assistance to overseas Indian nationals in times of distress.
- h. Labour and Manpower Cooperation MoUs/Agreements are in place with the six Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries where a large workers number of Indian reside and work. **These** institutional provide Agreements/MoUs the framework comprehensively discuss and review labour related issues through Joint Working Group (JWG) meetings.

Annexure-I to Lok Sabha Starred Question No.99

Country wise and Year wise data in r/o Indians employed abroad who died in accidents during the last three years

Sl. No.	Country	2019	2020	2021
1.	Angola	2	1	0
2.	United Arab Emirates	158	126	86
3.	Armenia	2	6	5
4.	Australia	7	7	7
5.	Azerbaijan	3	0	0
6.	Bangladesh	0	1	0
7.	Bahrain	13	18	13
8.	Tanzania	0	1	0
9.	Bhutan	4	1	23
10.	Botswana	0	1	1
11.	Canada	12	11	18
12.	China	4	0	1
13.	Côte d'Ivoire	2	1	1
14.	Congo	1	5	0
15.	Cuba	0	1	0
16.	Cyprus	1	0	2
17.	Germany	0	0	1
18.	Spain	0	0	2
19.	Ethiopia	3	0	2
20.	Ghana	0	0	3
21.	Croatia	0	0	1
22.	Indonesia	1	2	2
23.	Republic of Ireland	1	0	0
24.	Iran	5	5	3
25.	Iraq	1	2	2

26.	Israel	1	0	0
27.	Italy	13	9	18
28.	Jordan	1	0	3
29.	Kenya	1	1	2
30.	Kyrgyzstan	1	7	3
31.	South Korea	0	0	1
32.	Kuwait	75	64	56
33.	Lebanon	1	0	1
34.	Sri Lanka	3	4	3
35.	Mexico	1	0	2
36.	Mali	2	6	6
37.	Myanmar	1	0	0
38.	Mozambique	5	1	0
39.	Malawi	2	0	0
40.	Malaysia	51	25	0
41.	Nigeria	0	0	5
42.	Nepal	100	63	65
43.	New Zealand	11	4	9
44.	Oman	57	37	0
45.	Philippines	58	51	44
46.	Poland	1	3	0
47.	Portugal	5	3	2
48.	Qatar	23	37	0
49.	Romania	0	0	1
50.	Saudi Arabia	393	290	0
51.	Sudan	21	0	1
52.	South Sudan	0	0	1
53.	Senegal	0	0	1
54.	Singapore	22	16	17

55.	Syria	0	0	1
56.	Thailand	0	1	1
57.	Trinidad and Tobago	0	0	2
58.	Uganda	0	3	2
59.	USA	22	17	17
60.	Uzbekistan	1	0	0
61.	Vietnam	1	0	1
62.	South Africa	5	6	8
63.	Malta	2	1	0
		1100	838	446

Total = 2384

Annexure-II to Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 99

Country wise details of the pending cases in which the family of deceased person has not received proper compensation or justice

(Lok Sabha Starred question No *99)

Sl No.	Mission/Post	Pending cases
1	Angola	1
2	UAE	24
3	Ethiopia	1
4	South Korea	1
5	Kuwait	142
6	Lebanon	1
7	Oman	127
8	Qatar	41
9	Saudi Arabia	85
10	Sudan	20
11	Singapore	23
12	Yemen	1
13	South Africa	1
	Total	468
