

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1677
TO BE ANSWERED ON 11.02.2022**

RETURN OF DEAD BODIES FROM ABROAD

1677. KUNWAR DANISH ALI:

Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of people of Indian origin who died abroad while working there during the last five years and the current year, year-wise and country-wise;
- (b) whether the process of bringing back their bodies to India is quite complicated;
- (c) if so, whether the Government proposes to simplify the process; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

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

(a) As per the information available with the Ministry, 49,251 Indians have died abroad, including those working there during the last five years and this year. Country-wise detailed list is given at Annexure.

(b) to (d) The process of transportation of mortal remains to India involves various steps, most of which are to be undertaken by the local authorities in the country concerned. The following are the steps involved in transportation of mortal remains from a foreign country, viz.

- 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 somewhat from country to country and therefore there is no fixed time frame for eventual transportation. Government of India attaches high priority to addressing and resolving the issue pertaining to transportation of mortal remains of Indian nationals who die abroad. Our Missions/ Posts liaise with the foreign officials concerned to expedite procedures for the repatriation of mortal remains to India and extend all possible assistance to the family of the deceased. Generally, the transportation of mortal remains is quicker in cases of natural deaths in comparison to the cases of unnatural deaths, due to local procedures involved in those countries for investigating the cause of death in case of unnatural death.

Annexure to Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 1677

RETURN OF DEAD BODIES FROM ABROAD

S.No.	Country	NUMBER OF INDIANS WHO DIED ABROAD DURING THE LAST FIVE YEARS					
		2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022 (as on 31.01.2022)
1	Afghanistan	2	3	1	8	2	0
2	Algeria	6	1	5	6	1	0
3	Angola	4	9	0	4	3	0
4	Argentina	4	0	1	1	3	0
5	Armenia	2	6	1	5	5	1
6	Austria	14	6	18	12	14	0
7	Australia	103	119	112	88	75	0
8	Azerbaijan	0	0	6	3	2	0
9	Bahrain	237	234	211	303	352	20
10	Belarus	0	0	1	0	2	0
11	Bangladesh	30	29	35	29	20	1
12	Belgium	8	21	3	2	15	0
13	Bhutan	8	5	14	22	21	2
14	Botswana	4	11	8	9	39	2
15	Brazil	4	1	0	2	3	1
16	Brunei	8	12	15	11	8	1
17	Bulgaria	2	0	0	0	2	0
18	Burkina Faso	0	0	0	2	1	0
19	Cambodia	1	2	8	5	11	0
20	Cameroon	0	0	0	5	8	1
21	Canada	140	142	239	129	149	0
22	Chile	1	1	1	0	4	0
23	China	48	52	57	34	33	0
24	Congo	11	17	12	22	23	0
25	Colombia	4	2	1	2	0	0
26	Cote D' Ivoire	5	11	8	12	5	2
27	Croatia	0	0	2	1	3	0
28	Cuba	0	0	1	2	1	1
29	Cyprus	0	0	2	6	10	3
30	Czech Republic	2	2	1	1	4	0
31	Denmark	8	2	1	5	5	0

32	Djibouti	0	0	0	1	0	0
33	Egypt	9	16	10	10	16	0
34	Equatorial Guinea	0	0	0	1	1	0
35	Eritrea	0	0	0	0	1	0
36	Ethiopia	9	10	18	4	11	0
37	Fiji	3	2	0	1	0	0
38	Finland	4	2	2	6	3	1
39	France	15	17	23	16	24	1
40	Germany	57	74	64	83	103	0
41	Ghana	13	21	14	19	22	1
42	Greece	17	22	29	34	41	4
43	Guatemala	0	0	0	0	1	0
44	Guinea	0	0	0	3	6	1
45	Guyana	1	1	0	0	0	0
46	Hungary	4	4	2	3	2	0
47	Iceland	0	0	0	0	0	0
48	Indonesia	25	54	36	23	34	0
49	Iran	11	11	11	7	14	0
50	Iraq	2	4	12	26	25	0
51	Ireland	4	10	11	8	5	0
52	Israel	6	8	8	5	6	0
53	Italy	142	194	239	216	304	0
54	Jamaica	5	4	3	1	2	0
55	Japan	15	23	11	24	21	1
56	Jordan	16	13	10	25	19	4
57	Kazakhstan	1	2	5	2	1	0
58	Kenya	20	11	24	20	41	1
59	Korea (Republic of)	2	4	4	9	7	0
60	Kuwait	591	659	707	1279	1201	75
61	Kyrgyzstan	0	1	1	7	3	0
62	Laos PDR	1	2	0	1	0	0
63	Lebanon	0	0	11	21	10	0
64	Libya	0	0	1	0	1	0
65	Madagascar	9	7	7	4	6	0
66	Malawi	6	11	8	11	20	0
67	Malaysia	317	348	441	412	592	26
68	Maldives	11	14	7	13	17	0

69	Mali	2	4	2	7	7	0
70	Malta	0	0	3	2	6	0
71	Mauritius	3	15	9	9	10	0
72	Mexico	7	2	6	3	5	0
73	Morocco	0	4	1	1	2	0
74	Mongolia	0	0	0	0	1	0
75	Mozambique	10	13	11	14	11	0
76	Myanmar	4	7	8	8	10	1
77	Namibia	0	0	3	0	3	0
78	Nepal	80	71	101	105	91	2
79	Netherlands	10	12	8	17	12	1
80	New Zealand	43	51	49	20	31	0
81	Niger	0	1	0	2	0	0
82	Nigeria	25	25	13	79	75	7
83	Norway	2	7	3	1	3	0
84	Oman	495	526	485	630	913	38
85	Pakistan	3	3	1	6	1	0
86	Palestine	0	0	1	0	0	0
87	Panama	1	8	2	4	10	0
88	Papua New Guinea	0	1	2	1	1	0
89	Peru	0	0	1	0	2	0
90	Philippines	64	60	77	51	67	6
91	Poland	6	7	4	13	12	0
92	Portugal	8	5	17	14	19	0
93	Qatar	282	285	250	385	420	43
94	Romania	0	1	1	3	8	1
95	Russia	8	13	16	19	26	0
96	Rwanda	0	0	0	2	4	0
97	Saudi Arabia	2664	2551	2353	3753	2328	169
98	Serbia	0	1	1	0	3	0
99	Senegal	1	6	5	6	7	1
100	Seychelles	5	7	7	7	6	0
101	Sierra Leone	0	0	0	0	1	3
102	Singapore	151	158	165	166	170	15
103	Slovak Republic	1	0	0	0	1	0
104	South Africa	31	30	37	35	66	1
105	South Sudan	2	2	4	3	6	0

106	Spain	18	29	37	32	25	0
107	Sri Lanka	30	32	47	27	28	0
108	Sudan	1	4	2	21	20	2
109	Suriname	1	4	1	0	1	0
110	Swaziland	0	0	0	3	6	0
111	Sweden	0	1	2	6	5	0
112	Switzerland	8	7	10	12	2	0
113	Syria	0	0	2	0	3	0
114	Tajikistan	0	1	0	0	0	0
115	Tanzania	35	28	21	27	48	3
116	Thailand	83	80	101	76	113	5
117	Togo	0	0	0	0	4	0
118	Trinidad & Tobago	0	0	0	1	7	0
119	Tunisia	0	0	0	3	7	0
120	Turkey	11	10	4	6	9	0
121	Turkmenistan	0	1	0	0	1	0
122	Uganda	26	40	41	57	44	4
123	United Arab Emirates	1637	1759	1751	2454	2714	193
124	United Kingdom	120	104	141	90	140	19
125	Ukraine	5	6	2	6	13	0
126	United States of America	451	373	458	280	395	11
127	Uzbekistan	0	0	1	1	3	0
128	Venezuela	0	0	0	0	3	0
129	Vietnam	3	12	9	9	4	0
130	Yemen	0	0	0	0	2	0
131	Zambia	10	13	13	11	25	1
132	Zimbabwe	0	2	1	3	3	0
	Total	8319	8619	8773	11517	11347	676
