

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3746
TO BE ANSWERED ON 25.03.2022

EMERGENCY FUND FOR CITIZENS LIVING ABROAD

†3746. SHRI GOPAL CHINNAYA SHETTY:

Will the Ministry of **External Affairs** be please to state:

- (a) whether the Indian citizens, who have migrated abroad for livelihood, have to face at times many hardships due to lack of money in case of emergency;
- (b) whether the Government has taken any steps to help Indian citizens in abroad in case of emergency and to set up a fund for this purpose; and
- (c) if, so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c) In order to help Indian citizens abroad in case of emergency, Indian Community Welfare Fund (ICWF) was established by the Government in all Indian Missions and Posts abroad. Indian Missions and Posts are utilizing ICWF on a means tested basis to assist Overseas Indian nationals in distress situations (Boarding and Lodging, Air passage, Legal Assistance, Emergency Medical Care, Transportation of Mortal Remains). Community Welfare activities and improvement in Consular Services including provisions for setting of legal panels in countries with sizable Indian diaspora, payment of fines/penalty for petty crimes for release of prisoners and assistance to distressed Indian women abroad are also covered in ICWF.
