

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**  
**MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**  
**LOK SABHA**

**STARRED Q. NO. 76**

**ANSWERED ON 29.11.2024**

**CHALLENGES FACED BY NRIs IN MALDIVES**

**\*76. SHRI RAJMOHAN UNNITHAN**

**Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state:**

**(a) whether the Government is aware about the challenges faced by NRIs residing in the Maldives while sending their salary and other income remittances back to India and other difficulties faced by them in this process;**

**(b) if so, the details thereof;**

**(c) whether the Government has taken/proposes to take any steps to regulate and improve the remittance channels for NRIs in the Maldives; and**

**(d) if so, the details thereof along with the measures taken/proposed to be taken to reduce transaction fees and ensure smooth transfers?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**

**(DR. SUBRAHMANYAM JAISHANKAR)**

**(a) to (d) A statement is laid on the table of the House.**

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**Statement referred to in reply to parts (a) to (d) of the Lok Sabha Starred Question No. \*76 for reply on 29.11.2024 regarding “Challenges faced by NRIs in Maldives.”**

**(a) to (d): Maldives Monetary Authority, which is the Central Bank of Maldives, allocates a limited amount of US dollars per month to banks in Maldives to facilitate remittances abroad. This has impacted the ability of banks in Maldives to facilitate remittances beyond a certain limit for foreign nationals, including Indian nationals, earning their salaries in local Maldivian currency (Maldivian Rufiyaa – MVR). Indian nationals earning their salaries in US dollars do not face difficulties in remitting their money to India.**

**The High Commission of India in Maldives has already taken up the matter with the Government of Maldives and the Maldives Monetary Authority, requesting their support in enhancing allocation of US dollars to banks in Maldives in order to address the issues faced by Indian nationals residing in Maldives. In accordance with the importance attached to the welfare of the Indian nationals, our High Commission continues to follow up on the issue with the Maldivian authorities.**

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