

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO- 3152

ANSWERED ON- 13/12/2024

RENOUNCEMENT OF CITIZENSHIP

3152. SHRI VIJAYAKUMAR ALIAS VIJAY VASANTH

SHRI MANICKAM TAGORE B

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :-

(a) whether a large number of Indian citizen including highly skilled professionals are renouncing their citizenship;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor indicating the number of Indians who renounced their citizenship alongwith the countries of their destination during the last three years, year-wise;

(c) the manner in which the Government is planning to address this issue to prevent further brain drain;

(d) the estimated economic and tax-revenue loss due to such renunciation and the manner in which the Government is planning to mitigate these losses;

(e) the reasons for not having dual citizenship policy alongwith its implications on Indian living and working abroad;

(f) the number of overseas citizen of India registration cards issued till date alongwith the benefits availed by the holders; and

(g) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to create employment opportunities for Indians abroad and the mechanism put in place to support Indians who have renounced their citizenship?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

(SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH)

(a to d) - As per the information available with the Ministry, the number of Indians who gave up their Indian citizenship was 1,63,370 (in 2021); 2,25,620 (in 2022) and 2,16,219 (in 2023). For reference purpose, data was 1,22,819 (in 2011); 1,20,923 (in 2012); 1,31,405 (in 2013); 1,29,328 (in 2014); 1,31,489 (in 2015); 1,41,603 (in 2016); 1,33,049 (in 2017); 1,34,561 (in 2018); 1,44,017 (in 2019); 85,256 (in 2020). List of the countries whose citizenship Indians acquired is placed at Annexure. State-wise distribution of people who renounced Indian citizenship for foreign citizenships is not available.

The reasons for renouncing/taking citizenship are personal. The Government recognizes the potential of the global workplace in an era of knowledge economy. It has also brought about a transformational

change in its engagement with Indian diaspora. A successful, prosperous, and influential diaspora is an asset for India. India stands to gain a lot from tapping its diaspora networks and productive utilization of the soft power that comes from having such a flourishing diaspora. The Government's efforts are also aimed at harnessing the diaspora potential to its fullest including through sharing of knowledge and expertise.

(e) Dual citizenship is not permitted as per the provisions of Article 9 of the Constitution of India read with Section 9 of the Citizenship Act, 1955.

(f & g) - As per the information available with the Ministry till date, 51,00,796 Overseas Citizens of India (OCI) Cards have been issued.

Benifits availed by OCI cardholders are given below:

(i) Multiple entry lifelong visa for visiting India for any purpose (However OCI Cardholders will require a special permission to undertake research work in India for which they may submit the application to the Indian Mission/ Post/ FRRO concerned).

(ii) Exemption from registration with Foreigners Regional Registration Officer (FRRO) or Foreigners Registration Officer (FRO) for any length of stay in India.

(iii) Parity with Non-Resident Indians (NRIs) in respect of all facilities are available to them in economic, financial, and educational fields

except in matters relating to the acquisition of agricultural or plantation properties.

(iv) Overseas Citizen of India Cardholders are treated at par with Non-Resident-Indians in the matter of inter-country adoption of Indian children.

(v) Overseas Citizen of India Cardholders are treated at par with resident Indian nationals in the matter of tariffs in air fares in domestic sectors in India.

(vi) Overseas Citizen of India Cardholders are charged the same entry fee as domestic Indian visitors to visit national parks, national monuments, wildlife sanctuaries, historical sites and museums in India.

(vii) They may engage in the following professions in India, in pursuance of the provisions contained in the relevant Acts, namely:- doctors, dentists, nurses and pharmacists; advocates; architects; chartered accountants;

(viii) They may appear for the All India Pre-Medical Test or such other tests to make them eligible for admission available to NRIs in pursuance of the provisions contained in the relevant Acts.

LIST OF COUNTRIES WHOSE CITIZENSHIP WAS ACQUIRED BY INDIANS

S.No.	Country
1	Albania
2	Algeria
3	Andorra
4	Angola
5	Antigua & Barbuda
6	Argentina
7	Armenia
8	Australia
9	Austria
10	Azerbaijan
11	Bahamas
12	Bahrain
13	Bangladesh
14	Belarus
15	Belgium
16	Belize
17	Bolivia
18	Bosnia & Herzegovina
19	Botswana
20	Brazil

21	Brunei
22	Bulgaria
23	Cambodia
24	Canada
25	Chile
26	China
27	Colombia
28	Comoros
29	Costa Rica
30	Croatia
31	Cyprus
32	Czech Republic
33	Denmark
34	Dominica
35	Dominican Republic
36	Ecuador
37	Egypt
38	Estonia
39	Eswatini
40	Ethiopia
41	Fiji
42	Finland
43	France
44	Gabon

45	Georgia
46	Germany
47	Ghana
48	Greece
49	Grenada
50	Guatemala
51	Guyana
52	Hungary
53	Iceland
54	Indonesia
55	Iran
56	Iraq
57	Ireland
58	Israel
59	Italy
60	Jamaica
61	Japan
62	Jordan
63	Kazakhstan
64	Kenya

65	Kuwait
66	Kyrgyzstan
67	Laos
68	Latvia
69	Lithuania
70	Luxembourg
71	Madagascar
72	Malawi
73	Malaysia
74	Maldives
75	Mali
76	Malta
77	Mauritius
78	Mexico
79	Moldova
80	Mongolia
81	Morocco
82	Mozambique
83	Myanmar
84	Namibia
85	Nepal
86	New Zealand
87	Nigeria
88	North Macedonia

89	Norway
90	Oman
91	Pakistan
92	Panama
93	Papua New Guinea
94	Paraguay
95	Peru
96	Philippines
97	Poland
98	Portugal
99	Qatar
100	Republic of Korea
101	Romania
102	Russia
103	Saint Kitts & Nevis
104	Saint Lucia
105	Saudi Arabia
106	Serbia
107	Seychelles
108	Singapore
109	Slovak Republic
110	Slovenia
111	South Africa
112	Spain

113	Sri Lanka
114	Sudan
115	Suriname
116	Sweden
117	Switzerland
118	Tanzania
119	Thailand
120	The Holy See (Vatican City State)
121	The Netherlands
122	Tonga
123	Trinidad and Tobago
124	Türkiye
125	UAE
126	Uganda
127	UK
128	Ukraine
129	Uruguay
130	USA
131	Vanuatu
132	Vietnam
133	Yemen
134	Zambia
135	Zimbabwe
