GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO- 5702

ANSWERED ON- 04/04/2025

ATTACKS ON INDIAN STUDENTS ABROAD

5702. SHRI TANUJ PUNIA

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

(a) whether the Union Government is aware of the growing incidents of violence against Indian students abroad;

(b) if so, the number of Indian students in foreign universities who have died during the past five years; and

(c) the measures taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to investigate incidents of violence against Indian students abroad?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

(SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH)

(a) The number of Indian students abroad who faced violence during the last five years, country-wise, is attached at Annexure 'A'.

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(b) The number of Indian students in foreign universities who have died during the past five years is attached at Annexure 'A'.

(c) Safety and security of Indian Students abroad is one of the foremost priorities of the Government of India. Indian Missions and Posts abroad remain vigilant and closely monitor any untoward incident against Indian students in their respective countries of accreditation. Such unfortunate incidents, if any, are immediately taken up with the concerned authorities of the host country to ensure that the cases are properly investigated and the perpetrators are punished. These issues are also raised during meetings with Government officials of the countries concerned, including at the highest levels, as appropriate. The Government also remains seized with the contemporary political and security situation in different countries of the world that could impact the lives of Indians abroad, including students, and takes all possible measures to safeguard their interests and welfare.

The grievances of Indian students abroad are dealt with by Indian Missions/Posts on priority and are responded to almost on a real time basis through telephone calls, walk-ins, emails, social media, 24x7 emergency helplines, Open Houses and the MADAD Portal and distressed students are provided all possible consular assistance, including emergency medical care and boarding/lodging, whenever

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required. Indian Missions/Posts abroad also encourage Indian students travelling abroad for higher studies to register with them on the MADAD Portal so that their grievances and outstanding issues can be addressed in a time bound manner. The Indian students are also encouraged to remain connected with Indian Missions/Posts on a regular basis so that any complaint received from them can be taken up with the concerned University/Institution and the host Government, as the case may be, for requisite action.

The Indian Community Welfare Fund (ICWF) has been set up in Indian Missions/Posts abroad for assisting overseas Indian nationals, including Indian students, in distress situations on a means tested basis for deserving cases. The support extended under ICWF also includes extension of legal assistance, counselling and transportation of mortal remains of Indian nationals who die abroad.

<u>ANNEXURE – A</u>

Country-wise inputs received on number of violent attacks on Indian

S. No.	Name of the Country	Total Number of violent attacks	Number of deaths due to attacks
1	Australia	4	1
2	USA	9	9
3	UK	12	1
4	Italy	3	0
5	Russia	15	0
6	Canada	27	16
7	Ireland	4	0
8	Iran	1	0
9	Germany	11	1
10	China	1	1
11	Kyrgyzstan	1	1
12	Philippines	3	0
Total		91	30

students and involved deaths in the last 5 years

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