

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**

**MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**

**LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO- 748**

**ANSWERED ON- 07/02/2025**

**REPATRIATION OF INDIAN NATIONALS RECRUITED FOR RUSSIAN ARMY**

**748. ADV. ADOOR PRAKASH**

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

**(a) whether the Government has received any communication from Russian authorities regarding release and repatriation of Indian nationals who are still serving in the Russian army and if so, the details thereof;**

**(b) the number of Indian nationals recruited in the Russian army for the war along with the details of those who were repatriated, died or are still serving there;**

**(c) whether the mortal remains of all those who died were brought back to India, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and**

**(d) whether the Government has raised any objections with Russia for not releasing the Indian nationals despite Russian authorities assuring to do so, if so, the details thereof?**

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**

**(SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH)**

**(a) There has been regular exchange of communications between India and Russia in connection with Indian nationals in the Russian armed forces, on aspects such as their safety, well-being and early discharge, to enable their early return to India.**

**(b) As per available information, out of the 127 Indian nationals in the Russian armed forces, the services of 97 individuals have been discontinued. 12 Indian nationals are reported to have lost their lives. 18 Indian nationals remain in the Russian armed forces out of which 16 have been reported missing by the Russian side.**

**(c) Out of the 12 Indian nationals who have been reported to have lost their lives, the mortal remains of seven individuals have been received in India. In two other such instances, cremation was carried out in Russia as per the wishes of the respective families. The Government**

**remains in touch with Russian authorities for confirmation/verification of the three remaining cases of reported deaths.**

**(d) As a result of regular engagement between India and Russia, including at the highest level, most of the Indian nationals in the Russian armed forces have been discharged. In August 2024, the Russian side announced that the Ministry of Defence of the Russian Federation has stopped admitting Indian nationals in its armed forces since April 2024.**

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