

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5667

ANSWERED ON- 27/03/2026

EMERGENCY EVACUATION OF INDIANS

†5667. SHRI RAJKUMAR ROAT

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

(a) the details of the operations carried out for the evacuation of Indian citizens during wars/emergencies abroad in the last ten years;

(b) the number of Indian students, labourers and other citizens brought back to India from such countries including the Russia-Ukraine and USA-Israel-Iran conflicts;

(c) the operation-wise details of the fees charged per passenger by the Government or relevant agencies;

(d) whether it has come to the notice of the Government that complaints have been received regarding high fees being charged in some cases during emergency evacuations or economically weaker citizens not receiving adequate priority and if so, the action taken by the Government in this regard; and

(e) whether the Government proposes to formulate any policy to ensure free or subsidized evacuation of Indian students and labourers stranded abroad in such emergencies in future and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

(SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH)

(a) to (c) Government accords utmost priority to the safety and well-being of the Indian nationals abroad. Government has executed various operations in last ten years to evacuate Indian nationals during wars/conflicts/emergencies. The context and basis of each operation/evacuations is unique. Details of evacuations/operations

along with number of evacuated Indian nationals are attached at Annexure-I. During the prevailing USA-Israel-Iran conflict, Government has facilitated return of over 3.75 lakh Indian passengers by commercial flights including non-scheduled flight operations from West Asia and Gulf region till 21 March 2026.

(d) & (e) The Government has received queries through various outreach platforms made available to Indian nationals during the prevalent situation. Queries received at the Special Control Room in Ministry of External Affairs range from assistance to make contact with family/friends/relatives to enquiries about available travel options, cross-border travel facilitation, situation update, to verify misinformation etc. The queries are being flagged to the concerned Indian Embassies and Consulates in the region for real-time action. Government has been facilitating Indian passengers to embark on available commercial flights by facilitating local transportation, cross-border movements, obtaining transit visas etc. Government addresses each emergency as per the on-ground situation and circumstances and a response is executed to ensure the safety and well being of Indians abroad.

**DETAILS OF EVACUATIONS/OPERATIONS EXECUTED BY THE
GOVERNMENT IN PREVIOUS 10 YEARS**

Year	Country & Name of the Operation	Total number of Indian nationals evacuated
2015	Nepal Operation <i>Maitri</i>	3975
2015	Yemen Operation <i>Rahat</i>	6688 (including 1947 foreign nationals)
2016	South Sudan Operation <i>Sankat Mochan</i>	156 (including few foreign nationals)
2018	Yemen Operation <i>Nistar</i> (Indian naval operation)	38
2020	Maldives, Iran and Sri Lanka Operation <i>Samudra Setu</i> (Indian Naval Op.)	3992
2020-2022	Vande Bharat Mission (Global)	3.20 crore (1.594 crore disembarked and 1.608 crore embarked)
2021	Afghanistan Operation <i>Devi Shakti</i>	669 (including 15 other foreign nationals and 206 Afghans, which includes members of the Afghan Hindu/Sikh minority)
2022	Ukraine Operation <i>Ganga</i>	18,282
2023	Sudan	4,097

	Operation Kaveri	(including 136 foreign nationals)
2023	Israel Operation Ajay	1,343 (including 14 OCI card holders and 20 foreign nationals)
2024	Haiti Operation Indravati	17
2024	Kuwait (Special Humanitarian Airlift of deceased Indian nationals)	45 (mortal remains)
2025	Iran Operation Sindhu	3597
2025	Israel Operation Sindhu	818
2024-25	Syria	86
2022-2025	Iraq	135
2025	Sri Lanka (Operation Sagar Bandhu -HADR operation)	424 (evacuated by special IAF flights on gratis basis) and 2076 (facilitated by commercial flights)
