

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.412**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 04.02.2021

**INDIANS LODGED IN FOREIGN JAILS**

†412. DR. KIRODI LAL MEENA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that a large number of Indians are lodged in the jails of various countries including those of Pakistan and Gulf countries, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the kind of assistance being provided to them; and
- (c) the steps taken/being taken by Government to ensure the release of such prisoners and to bring them safely back to the country?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
[SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN]

(a) As per the information available with the Ministry, the number of Indian prisoners in foreign jails as of 31.12.2020 is 7139 which also includes under-trials. Country-wise list is given at Annexure. However, due to strong privacy laws prevailing in many countries, the local authorities do not share information on prisoners unless the person concerned consents to the disclosure of such information. Even countries which share information do not generally provide detailed information about the foreign nationals imprisoned.

(b) & (c) Indian Missions/Posts abroad remain vigilant and closely monitor the incidents of Indian nationals being put in jail in foreign countries for violation of local laws or alleged violation of local laws. Apart from extending them all possible consular assistance, Indian Missions and Posts also assist in providing legal aid wherever needed. Missions and Posts also maintain a local panel of lawyers where Indian community is in sizeable numbers. There is a regular process of consultation and coordination with countries concerned on the issue of repatriation of Indian nationals in foreign prisons including in the context of bilateral agreements for Transfer of Sentenced Persons (TSP).

In addition, the Government through its Missions/Posts abroad also takes up and pursues grant of amnesty/ commutation of sentences of Indian prisoners in foreign countries.

\*\*\*

<b>Annexure of Indians Lodged in Foreign Jails</b>		
<b>S.No</b>	<b>Country</b>	<b>Number of Indians in Foreign Jails as on 31.12.2020</b>
1	Afghanistan	0
2	Algeria	0
3	Angola	0
4	Argentina	0
5	Armenia	3
6	Austria	5
7	Australia	64
8	Azerbaijan	3
9	Bahrain	77
10	Belarus	2
11	Bangladesh	174
12	Belgium	12
13	Bhutan	94
14	Botswana	1
15	Brazil	1
16	Brunei	2
17	Bulgaria	0
18	Burkina Faso	0
19	Cambodia	4
20	Cameroon	0
21	Canada	23
22	Chile	1
23	China	144
24	Congo	0
25	Colombia	4
26	Cote D' Ivoire	3
27	Croatia	0
28	Cuba	1
29	Cyprus	25
30	Czech Republic	0
31	Denmark	4
32	Djibouti	1
33	Egypt	1
34	Equatorial Guinea	0
35	Eritrea	0
36	Ethiopia	0
37	Fiji	1
38	Finland	0
39	France	39
40	Germany	78
41	Ghana	1
42	Greece	22
43	Guatemala	2
44	Guinea	0
45	Guyana	0

46	Hungary	2
47	Iceland	0
48	Indonesia	20
49	Iran	50
50	Iraq	2
51	Ireland	1
52	Israel	4
53	Italy	221
54	Jamaica	0
55	Japan	8
56	Jordan	10
57	Kazakhstan	0
58	Kenya	1
59	Korea (DPR)	0
60	Korea (Republic of)	3
61	Kuwait	536
62	Kyrgyzstan	0
63	Laos PDR	2
64	Lebanon	3
65	Madagascar	1
66	Malawi	0
67	Malaysia	548
68	Maldives	28
69	Mali	0
70	Malta	0
71	Mauritius	4
72	Mexico	1
73	Morocco	2
74	Mongolia	0
75	Mozambique	6
76	Myanmar	64
77	Namibia	0
78	Nepal	886
79	Netherlands	0
80	New Zealand	13
81	Niger	0
82	Nigeria	0
83	Norway	0
84	Oman	45
85	Pakistan	62
86	Palestine	0
87	Panama	0
88	Papua New Guinea	0
89	Peru	0
90	Philippines	41
91	Poland	9
92	Portugal	5
93	Qatar	411
94	Rwanda	0
95	Romania	1

96	Russia	7
97	Saudi Arabia	1599
98	Serbia	0
99	Senegal	0
100	Seychelles	0
101	Sierra Leone	0
102	Singapore	71
103	Slovak Republic	0
104	Slovenia	1
105	South Africa	3
106	South Sudan	0
107	Spain	23
108	Sri Lanka	83
109	Sudan	0
110	Suriname	0
111	Swaziland	0
112	Sweden	2
113	Switzerland	1
114	Syria	0
115	Tajikistan	0
116	Tanzania	1
117	Thailand	25
118	Trinidad & Tobago	2
119	Tunisia	0
120	Turkey	0
121	Turkmenistan	0
122	Uganda	0
123	United Arab Emirates	898
124	United Kingdom	373
125	Ukraine	0
126	United States of America	265
127	Uzbekistan	0
128	Venezuela	0
129	Vietnam	2
130	Yemen	1
131	Zambia	0
132	Zimbabwe	0
	<b>Total</b>	<b>7139</b>

\*\*\*