

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-389
ANSWERED ON- 06/02/2025

INDIANS IN RUSSIAN ARMY

389. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA

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

- (a) whether Government has taken cognisance of the Indians serving in the Russian Army currently;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government is taking measures to bring these people back to the country in view of the recent deaths of Indian soldiers in Russia;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (f) the details of proposed measures being taken to ensure their overall welfare?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
(SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH)

(a to f) Yes Sir. The Government is aware that Indian nationals had been recruited into the Russian armed forces. The Government of India has engaged with the relevant Russian authorities at various levels, including at the level of the President of the Russian Federation, to ensure the safety, well-being, and early discharge of all such individuals, and their return to India.

As a result of these concerted efforts by the Government, most of the Indian nationals in the Russian armed forces have already been discharged. As per available information, 18 Indian nationals remain in the Russian armed forces out of which 16 have been reported as missing by the Russian side. The Russian authorities concerned have been requested to provide an update on the remaining Indian nationals in the Russian armed forces, and also ensure their safety, wellbeing and early discharge.

The Indian Mission/Posts in Russia have assisted Indian nationals in their return to India following the discontinuation of their service in the Russian armed forces, including through the facilitation of travel documents and air tickets wherever required.

The Government has also facilitated the return of mortal remains of seven Indian nationals who lost their lives in the conflict; in two other such cases, the mortal remains were cremated in Russia.

The Government accords the highest priority to the safety, security and well-being of all Indian nationals abroad and takes appropriate action, as and when any request for assistance is received.
