

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO - 2322
ANSWERED ON – 20.03.2025

DEATH OF INDIANS AT GEORGIA EATERY

2322. SHRI GOLLA BABURAO:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that 11 Indians working at a Georgia eatery died of suspected Carbon Monoxide poisoning;
- (b) if so, the details of steps taken by Government to support their families financially in India; and
- (c) Government's policy to support the families of Indian nationals working in foreign countries who become victims of such incidents in foreign lands?

ANSWER

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

(a) 11 Indian nationals unfortunately lost their lives due to Carbon Monoxide poisoning at a restaurant located in Gudauri, Georgia, in December 2024.

(b & c) The transportation of the mortal remains of these 11 Indian nationals to India was facilitated by the Indian Mission in Georgia without any financial implications for their families.

The Government accords highest priority to the safety, security and well-being of Indian nationals abroad and has taken several initiatives such as Pravasi Bharatiya Bima Yojana (PBBY) and Pre-Departure Orientation & Training (PDOT) in ensuring that Indian migrant workers (including labourers) undertake safe migration, have decent working and living conditions in destination countries, are aware of their rights and have access to various welfare schemes of the Government. The PBBY is an insurance scheme aimed at safeguarding the interests of Indian migrant workers going abroad for employment. The scheme provides an insurance cover of INR 10 lakh and other benefits in case of accidental death or permanent disability leading to job loss, at a nominal insurance premium of INR 275/- for two years or INR 375/- for three years.

Our Missions/Posts abroad also utilize the Indian Community Welfare Fund (ICWF) to provide necessary assistance, including legal, on means-tested basis to Indian citizens abroad and their dependents in times of distress.
