

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO. 63

ANSWERED ON 26.07.2024

INDIAN COMMUNITY WELFARE FUND

***63. SHRI RAJMOHAN UNNITHAN**

SHRI E.T. MOHAMMED BASHEER

Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) the current policy regarding utilization of Indian Community Welfare Fund (ICWF) indicating the balance amount available in the said fund in each of the Indian Embassy/High Commission abroad as on 30.06.2024, country-wise;

(b) whether the Government proposes to change rules relating to utilisation of ICWF for providing better facilities to Indians abroad and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the Government has utilised the amount available with ICWF for helping Indians involved in legal disputes during last four years and for bringing back the mortal remains of Indians who had

expired during their stay abroad during the said period, if so, the details thereof, Embassy/High Commission-wise?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

(SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH)

(a) to (c): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to parts (a) to (c) of the Lok Sabha Starred Question No. *63 for reply on 26.07.2024 regarding “Indian Community Welfare Fund” .

ICWF is primarily funded by levying service charges on various consular services rendered by Indian Missions and Posts abroad. Hence, ICWF is a self-sustaining fund with no budgetary support from the Government. The fund is administered as per the guidelines approved by the Union Cabinet.

2. Indian Missions and Posts utilize ICWF on a means-tested basis in the most deserving cases for boarding & lodging, air passage to India, legal assistance, transportation of mortal remains, payment for small fines and penalties in respect of Indian nationals for minor offences/crimes, and emergency medical care. Community welfare activities and improvement in Consular services including provisions for setting-up of panel of lawyers in GCC and other countries with sizable Indian national population, and assistance to distressed Indian women abroad are also covered under ICWF.

3. ICWF is maintained on a global basis and funds can be transferred between Missions and Posts. For effective management, the Head of Missions/Posts regularly monitor the administrative and financial management of the Fund and regular Audit of funds is

carried out as per the prescribed procedures by the authorities concerned.

4. The details indicating the balance amount available in ICWF in each of the Indian Embassy/High Commission abroad as on 31-03-2024 are given at Annexure-A.

5. The ICWF guidelines were revised on 19th July, 2017 with the approval of the Cabinet and the Gazette notification was issued on 18th August, 2017 which came into effect from 1st September, 2017. The revised guidelines essentially rest on three pillars (i) Assisting Overseas Indian citizens in distress situations, (ii) Community Welfare activities, and (iii) Improvement in Consular services.

6. Under the revised ICWF guidelines, the scope of welfare measures was expanded. The Govt has utilized the amount available for the helping of Indians involved in legal disputes. Legal assistance to Indian women deserted by Overseas Indians/foreign nationals has also been provided (Annexure-B). Missions/Posts were authorized to incur expenditure from the ICWF Funds within the scope of the guidelines on Community Welfare and for bringing back mortal remains of Indians who had expired during their stay abroad. The expenditure incurred during the last four years for transporting mortal remains of Indian nationals who had died abroad is at

**Annexure-C. Before the revision, there were no provisions for
Community Welfare Activities and Improvement in Consular Services.**

Annexure-A

Closing Balance of ICWF as on 31st March 2024		
Sl. No.	Name of the country	Closing Balance as on 31st March 2024(in INR)
1	Algeria	24,71,799
2	Angola	12,20,061
3	Argentina	1,01,861
4	Armenia	6,84,826
5	Australia	30,35,01,504
6	Austria	1,19,96,419
7	Azerbaijan	2,89,756
8	Bahrain	15,37,57,553
9	Bangladesh	41,26,388
10	Belarus	63,61,398
11	Belgium	9,72,97,622
12	Bhutan	35,20,400
13	Botswana	1,20,06,805
14	Brazil	64,15,168
15	Brunei darussalam	47,03,879
16	Bulgaria	25,78,154
17	Burkina Faso	4,03,140
18	Cambodia	15,91,895

19	Cameroon	11,08,132
20	Canada	42,37,00,203
21	Chile	18,24,771
22	China	26,21,50,153
23	Colombia	12,07,656
24	Cote d'Ivoire	57,57,461
25	Croatia	20,77,177
26	Cuba	1,17,668
27	Cyprus	16,45,390
28	Czech Republic	46,69,250
29	Democratic Republic of the Congo	1,94,79,837
30	Denmark	3,26,87,744
31	Djibouti	1,70,85,218
32	Dominican Republic	36,035
33	Egypt	51,78,391
34	Equatorial Guinea	60,883
35	Eritrea	1,10,443
36	Estonia	5,789
37	Ethiopia	1,82,89,793
38	Fiji	7,12,334

39	Finland	95,39,071
40	France	14,14,99,308
41	Germany	17,33,08,273
42	Ghana	24,00,464
43	Greece	1,14,31,358
44	Guatemala	10,04,144
45	Guinea	3,64,415
46	Guyana	7,91,187
47	Hungary	26,89,276
48	Iceland	6,11,838
49	Indonesia	3,02,60,225
50	Iran	44,26,584
51	Iraq	6,21,82,779
52	Ireland	2,54,61,791
53	Israel	4,89,28,144
54	Italy	7,96,86,688
55	Jamaica	16,88,811
56	Japan	8,69,11,494
57	Jordan	62,33,128
58	Kazakhstan	24,69,777
59	Kenya	3,81,36,797

60	Kuwait	20,39,94,370
61	Kyrgystan	37,35,194
62	Laos	3,18,179
63	Lebanon	57,753
64	Liberia	72,366
65	Libya	1,09,73,406
66	Madagascar	20,23,677
67	Malawi	24,94,523
68	Malaysia	6,71,152
69	Maldives	29,47,146
70	Mali	13,03,874
71	Malta	37,80,969
72	Mauritius	1,14,60,629
73	Mexico	28,59,628
74	Mongolia	5,10,123
75	Morocco	35,25,166
76	Mozambique	79,28,185
77	Myanmar	1,90,48,179
78	Namibia	3,50,084
79	Nepal	3,13,47,263

80	Netherlands	3,19,11,724
81	New Zealand	25,14,03,274
82	Niger	12,46,439
83	Nigeria	1,18,48,668
84	Norway	1,25,17,491
85	Oman	4,54,56,396
86	Pakistan	16,18,949
87	Palestine	8,35,847
88	Panama	48,07,883
89	Papua New Guinea	10,24,289
90	Paraguay	5,25,640
91	Peru	28,00,223
92	Philippines	2,42,19,852
93	Poland	27,34,085
94	Portugal	2,27,87,598
95	Qatar	11,25,74,600
96	Romania	10,56,471
97	Russia	9,84,89,155
98	Rwanda	8,31,823
99	Saudi Arabia	35,12,72,929
100	Senegal	33,07,420

101	Serbia	4,89,321
102	Seychelles	6,00,725
103	Sierra leone	1,05,194
104	Singapore	15,32,75,052
105	Slovakia	32,75,088
106	Slovenia	14,30,718
107	South Africa	66,42,918
108	South Korea	7,87,92,415
109	South Sudan	31,43,217
110	Spain	7,30,80,254
111	Sri Lanka	17,30,27,828
112	Sudan	58,54,552
113	Suriname	12,32,627
114	Swaziland	2,53,158
115	Sweden	2,80,53,814
116	Switzerland	4,26,59,084
117	Syria	1,92,37,798
118	Taiwan	71,80,562
119	Tajikistan	23,55,206
120	Tanzania	2,62,35,251

121	Thailand	8,57,31,350
122	Togo	5,95,384
123	Trinidad & Tobago	48,71,038
124	Tunisia	1,40,55,995
125	Turkey	2,58,82,509
126	Turkmenistan	1,51,71,540
127	UAE	42,71,40,894
128	Uganda	1,12,53,802
129	Ukraine	80,79,162
130	United Kingdom	1,33,29,50,476
131	United States of America	90,51,36,650
132	Uzbekhistan	1,54,87,846
133	Venezuela	11,95,083
134	Vietnam	1,97,78,942
135	Yemen	1,70,85,218
136	Zambia	48,12,550
137	Zimbabwe	48,20,751

Expenditure under ICWF on Legal Assistance

		2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024(Upto March 2024)
S No	Mission/Posts	Expenditure (in INR)	Expenditure (in INR)	Expenditure (in INR)	Expenditure (in INR)	Expenditure (in INR)	Expenditure (in INR)
1	Abidjan	0	0	3,05,118	0	0	0
2	Abu Dhabi	0	0	16,427	51,053	0	0
3	Accra	70,583	0	0	0	0	0
4	Amman	35,918	0	0	0	0	0
5	Astana	0	0	0	22,650	1,05,766	
6	Atlanta	3,18,244	35,915	0	2,90,060	1,65,940	
7	Baghdad	0	0	50,625	0	0	0
8	Bahrain	21,577	58,129	62,302	1,99,155	2,15,841	57,436
9	Bangkok	32,277	59,047	17,222	1,00,980	18,394	0

10	Beijing	0	3,34,728	0	0	0	0
11	Beirut	3,60,675	6,47,287	8,19,434	5,45,691	1,32,641	
12	Berlin	0	0	0	13,53,168	9,70,485	0
13	Birmingham	8,08,413	7,046	0	0	0	0
14	Brasilia	0	0	0	0	67,568	0
15	Cairo	14,27,488	0	24,246	0	0	0
16	Chittagong	0	0	8,745	0	0	0
17	Colombo	3,16,310	66,103	66,251	63,986	55,295	0
18	Dakar	0	0	0	0	0	5,60,764
19	Djibouti	0	0	0	0	2,22,167	0
20	Doha	1,87,746	26,240	1,79,061	7,40,981	11,26,85,189	97,989
21	Dubai	0	3,44,506	6,29,778	2,63,598	13,88,696	0
22	Dushanbe	713	0	0	0	0	0
23	Guangzhou	0	0	0	0	0	97,561

24	Hambantota	0	0	0	0	49,729	0
25	Islamabad	4,77,099	4,01,973	0	0	0	0
26	Istanbul	79,805	0	0	0	0	
27	Jaffna	39,085	3,961	15,563	99,046	1,71,605	76,211
28	Jakarta	2,016	0	0	0	0	0
29	Jeddah	0	25,666	2,40,562	0	0	0
30	Johannesburg	0	0	0	0	8,250	0
31	Kandy	8,932	0	4,522	0	30,951	7,700
32	Kathmandu	0	0	0	31,250	0	0
33	Khartoum	15,149	7,954	0	6,64,640	0	0
34	Kuala Lumpur	6,42,361	0	5,94,572	35,336	0	1,51,224
35	Kuwait	1,85,328	0	0	0	96,207	0
36	London	1,08,804	0	3,06,722	0	3,60,162	1,92,438
37	Madrid	28,836	0	0	0	0	0

38	Muscat	26,13,794	5,71,548	0	0	7,74,694	2,43,129
39	New York	0	3,43,196	4,52,850	0	1,08,786	4,60,395
40	Prague	0	0	0	0	0	77,918
41	Riyadh	0	0	0	0	10,15,873	0
42	San Francisco	2,89,600	2,88,800	0	0	0	0
43	Sanaa	0	0	0	1,93,766	2,22,167	0
44	Shanghai	1,31,561	2,94,299	5,05,285	0	0	0
45	St. Petersburg	71,356	0	0	0	0	0
46	Toronto	0	0	0	6,25,000	0	0
47	Warsaw	9,242	1,87,617	0	0	0	0
48	Washington	0	1,51,180	0	6,09,167	3,36,000	0
49	Wellington	0	0	0	0	41,885	1,68,235
50	Yangon	0	0	0	8,30,215	2,16,359	0
51	Yerevan	0	0	0	0	2,147	0

Annexure C**Expenditure under ICWF on Transportation of Mortal Remains of Indian Nationals died abroad**

Year		2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024 (upto March 2024)
Sl. No.	Missions/Posts	Expenditure (in INR)	Expenditure (in INR)	Expenditure (in INR)	Expenditure (in INR)	Expenditure (in INR)	Expenditure (in INR)
1	Abu Dhabi	2,37,975	2,02,104	2,21,178	21,49,673	81,346	5,48,047
2	Addis Ababa	1,09,462	0	0	0	0	0
3	Algiers	3,37,080	5,27,482	0	0	0	0
4	Amman	4,25,961	86,022	0	87,826	0	1,01,176
5	Ankara	3,535	0	0	0	4,76,272	0
6	Athens	1,29,273	1,30,751	7,33,494	8,01,901	4,33,179	13,24,447
7	Atlanta	7,52,209	58,182	0	4,25,086	0	0
8	Baghdad	0	3,59,150	1,89,875	4,42,310	0	0
9	Bahrain	3,65,619	4,40,644	10,86,525	10,54,943	7,00,549	6,17,548

10	Baku	2,81,853	0	5,61,938	0	0	0
11	Bali	2,30,688	0	0	0	0	0
12	Bandar Abbas	1,56,568	0	0	0	0	0
13	Bangkok	0	2,21,722	2,89,323	0	1,56,364	0
14	Beijing	8,18,833	0	0	0	0	0
15	Beirut	1,55,276	1,68,302	0	2,41,080	0	0
16	Belgrade	0	0	60,190	3,05,930	0	0
17	Berlin	3,71,341	0	17,79,411	9,71,785	0	4,66,349
18	Birmingham	2,70,756	5,61,457	2,86,323	2,92,244	3,03,270	3,21,103
19	Bratislava	0	0	0	0	0	3,01,049
20	Brunei Darussalam	0	0	0	0	3,75,000	0
21	Brussels	2,78,105	0	0	3,63,425	0	0
22	Bucharest	0	0	8,45,485	13,20,536	8,82,362	2,08,380
23	Budapest	0	60,378	0	1,41,561	3,86,162	0

24	Cairo	0	0	0	0	2,47,198	0
25	Canberra	0	0	4,30,000	5,90,110	4,95,930	0
26	Chicago	0	0	6,37,500	0	0	6,75,995
27	Chittagong	0	160	0	0	0	0
28	Colombo	15,25,622	1,22,349	3,56,523	1,37,196	0	0
29	Copenhagen	0	0	8,69,002	0	0	0
30	Dar-es-Salaam	0	3,36,642	0	3,38,052	0	0
31	Dhaka	2,43,481	2,27,471	56,960	12,681	4,05,382	0
32	Doha	8,88,249	7,95,702	4,46,300	7,26,351	8,95,394	9,61,061
33	Dubai	62,22,421	63,68,618	80,37,789	1,42,38,163	47,94,382	13,70,581
34	Dublin	0	0	0	7,07,134	0	0
35	Edinburgh	0	0	0	0	3,19,796	0
36	Erbil	0	7,72,321	0	59,234	3,96,632	1,58,301
37	Frankfurt	9,40,145	0	0	2,86,234	0	0

38	Gaborone	0	0	0	17,473	0	0
39	Geneva	0	0	7,84,050	0	0	0
40	Georgetown	0	0	0	10,24,563	0	0
41	Guangzhou	15,85,974	9,95,423	0	0	0	0
42	Hambantota	0	0	6,197	0	0	4,46,714
43	Hamburg	8,14,415	3,33,432	0	4,62,718	4,69,469	4,46,714
44	Hanoi	0	0	2,40,485	0	0	0
45	Houston	6,53,193	0	0	0	0	0
46	Islamabad	31,412	0	3,449	1,32,829	0	0
47	Istanbul	0	0	0	1,62,036	0	
48	Jaffna	0	19,993	1,09,408	0	0	0
49	Jeddah	22,86,217	91,04,905	26,80,271	49,92,595	13,05,049	20,96,066
50	Johannesburg	0	0	2,00,320	4,29,970	0	0
51	Juba	8,126	0	0	0	0	0

52	Kabul	14,646	8,94,590	0	0	0	0
53	Kampala	0	0	0	1,53,441	0	0
54	Kandy	0	1,87,602	0	2,93,550	0	0
55	Kathmandu	89,589	0	81,250	6,250	0	0
56	Khartoum	22,61,435	16,13,319	0	0	0	0
57	Kuala Lumpur	11,28,333	4,31,452	6,10,396	53,016	8,33,645	1,61,011
58	Kuwait	2,41,838	10,79,718	16,75,086	27,53,314	13,07,255	8,10,938
59	Kyiv	0	0	1,06,334	0	0	0
60	Lisbon	17,82,885	8,38,592	0	1,50,228	0	0
61	London	0	6,24,775	10,94,952	6,95,881	12,10,473	5,42,310
62	Lusaka	0	0	1,34,762	0	0	0
63	Madrid	18,37,311	9,86,049	6,76,834	9,49,434	0	53,153
64	Malabo	7,74,571	0	0	2,02,022	0	0
65	Male	0	0	0	0	6,87,368	0

66	Manila	3,39,835	13,37,423	7,05,096	5,84,825	1,62,745	2,57,222
67	Maputo	0	2,05,272	0	0	0	0
68	Medan	7,04,448	0	0	1,81,896	0	0
69	Melbourne	0	7,04,091	0	4,76,126	0	0
70	Mexico City	0	0	4,40,353	0	0	0
71	Milan	12,71,022	0	0	8,83,084	0	2,90,848
72	Minsk	0	0	0	2,19,981	5,32,284	0
73	Moscow	0	0	0	1,79,808	0	2,53,575
74	Munich	3,56,040	3,99,682	12,53,570	3,63,865	8,26,188	0
75	Muscat	6,62,766	7,49,617	7,11,900	13,96,708	7,86,658	4,46,353
76	Nairobi	2,14,545	0	0	0	0	0
77	New York	8,09,327	21,09,221	30,76,415	90,72,242	17,31,555	49,29,171
78	Niamey	0	0	0	0	0	0
79	Nicosia	0	0	0	3,78,040	2,46,726	2,11,508

80	Ottawa	0	5,50,045	0	0	0	8,96,735
81	Paris	24,24,437	12,56,334	27,21,071	10,15,354	0	4,11,061
82	Perth	2,71,811	0	0	0	0	0
83	Phnom Penh	0	0	5,58,125	0	0	4,99,808
84	Port Louis	0	2,24,515	0	0	0	0
85	Prague	0	0	6,58,222	6,73,939	6,32,753	0
86	Pretoria	12,66,502	8,76,449	0	0	0	0
88	Rabat	0	5,26,720	0	0	0	0
89	Riyadh	52,67,723	76,64,549	1,48,67,068	1,41,00,823	75,69,485	19,87,331
90	Rome	4,36,543	27,46,681	0	2,06,760	5,35,704	2,57,992
91	San Francisco	0	3,20,699	3,29,958	6,44,389	16,96,223	18,08,502
92	Sanaa	0	0	0	0	4,70,938	0
93	Seoul	0	4,23,837	0	11,89,536	0	7,48,618
94	Shanghai	27,69,748	0	0	0	17,11,708	0

95	Singapore	1,92,513	0	0	0	0	
96	St. Petersburg	0	1,65,451	3,90,433	1,36,714	0	0
97	Stockholm	3,37,054	3,38,152	0	0	0	78,245
98	Sydney	14,45,353	2,63,667	8,39,938	4,94,444	0	
99	Tehran	0	0	0	0	0	3,19,533
100	Tel Aviv	7,41,660	0	2,98,310	3,18,907	0	4,66,476
101	The Hague	3,69,357	2,95,680	0	11,80,927	0	
102	Tokyo	4,60,548	9,19,599	7,50,790	16,75,115	3,12,844	13,33,780
103	Toronto	1,08,99,185	48,11,471	40,74,804	38,46,392	17,73,479	38,51,497
104	Valletta	3,69,295	0	10,813	0	2,68,891	0
105	Vancouver	0	0	0	6,83,230	6,83,230	0
106	Victoria (Mahe)	24,602	0	0	1,89,337	6,48,419	0
107	Vienna	0	0	0	0	0	5,25,228

108	Warsaw	12,80,861	7,27,124	1,17,078	20,35,285	17,72,997	9,12,384
109	Washington	0	0	0	0	8,24,486	0
110	Wellington	9,91,365	20,87,966	0	30,19,525	8,70,810	7,73,969
111	Yaounde	0	0	0	0	10,21,907	0
112	Yerevan	0	5,43,533	0	8,10,361	2,11,630	0
113	Zagreb	0	0	0	4,53,382	0	0
114	Lagos	0	6,90,286	0	0	0	0
