

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:147

ANSWERED ON:03.12.2014

DEATH OF INDIANS IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES

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Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of Indians who died in various foreign countries during the last three years, country and year-wise;
- (b) whether the Government has launched an online system for facilitating transportation of mortal remains from Emigration Check Required (ECR) countries recently and if so, the details thereof along with the names of ECR countries; and
- (c) whether the online system has also been linked with the Overseas Workers Resource Centre (OWRC) and if so, the details in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SMT.SUSHMA SWARAJ)

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

Statement as referred to in reply to the Lok Sabha Starred Question Dy. No. 147 (Position No. 7) for 03.12.2014 regarding "Death of Indians in Foreign Countries"

(a) and (b) Based on the information received from 97 Indian Missions [including 18 Emigration Check Required (ECR) Countries], the number of Indians, who died in these countries during the last three years is as under:

Sl.	Year	Total No. No. of deaths reported by Indian Missions
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1	2011#	5282
2	2012#	6331
3	2013#	6683

The details, country and year-wise, are given in Annexure.

The Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs has launched a software module for Transportation of Mortal Remains (TMR) of Indians on 12th Aug 2014. This software module can be accessed from the website of Ministry www.moia.gov.in and emigrate.gov.in. An applicant (relative or friend of the deceased) can register or report death case of an Indian worker in Emigration Check Required (ECR) countries. Such requests are submitted automatically through the system to the concerned Mission, where the deceased has died. The Indian Mission officials can also register or report death cases of Indian workers in TMR system on behalf of the deceased. Since the launch of the module till date, a total of 612 cases have been registered and 480 cases have been closed by Indian Embassies or Missions in 18 ECR countries namely: Malaysia, Jordan, UAE, Yemen, Lebanon, Qatar, Oman, Kuwait, Iraq, Bahrain, Saudi Arabia, Afghanistan, Indonesia, Libya, Sudan, South Sudan, Syria, and Thailand.

(c) Keeping in view the educational status of ECR passport holders, the system has also been linked with the Overseas Workers Resource Centre (OWRC) which is an information facilitation as well as complaint redressal centre for the emigrants. Those who cannot fill the information directly on this system can provide the information to OWRC on toll free no. (1800-113090) and OWRC would submit the same information to the system in the similar way as is done by the individual. OWRC is equipped to receive information in eleven languages viz., English, Hindi, Bengali, Kannada, Malayalam, Punjabi, Tamil, Telugu, Marathi, Oriya & Gujarati. This software module accepts applications where emigrant has died in 18 emigration check required (ECR) countries. OWRC can also inform the status of any grievance submitted for TMR to the caller seeking information. The status of such grievance is updated and maintained by Indian Mission only.