

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO- 716
ANSWERED ON 05/02/2026

INDIANS TRAFFICKED TO SOUTH EAST ASIA

716. SHRI SAKET GOKHALE

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of Indian nationals suspected to have been trafficked to or entrapped in cyber-scam compounds in Cambodia, Laos, and Myanmar, State-wise and year-wise, since 2021;
- (b) the details of Indian nationals who are still untraced from there as on date; and
- (c) the details of specific bilateral instruments, if any, concluded since 2024 with Cambodia/Laos/Myanmar for criminal accountability of recruiters and camp operators and for victim compensation?

ANSWER

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

(a to c) Government has been made aware of instances where dubious firms involved in fake recruitment job offers have lured Indian nationals mostly through social media channels to South-East Asian countries including Cambodia, Myanmar, Lao PDR and made to carry out cyber crime and other fraudulent activities from scam centres operating in these countries. The exact number of Indian nationals stranded in these countries is not known as Indian nationals reach these scam centres on their own volition through fraudulent/unscrupulous recruitment agents/agencies and through illegal channels. With the concerted efforts of our Embassies in Cambodia, Lao PDR and Myanmar, the number of Indian nationals rescued till date is mentioned in the table below:

S.No.	Country	No. of Indian Nationals rescued			
		2022	2023	2024	2025
1	Cambodia	44	207	982	1,300
2	Lao PDR	74	244	558	1,421
3	Myanmar	338	89	147	1,594

Government accords the utmost priority to the safety, security and well-being of Indian nationals abroad. Government of India has raised this issue at political level with the host Government from time to time. Missions/Posts take up the issue of rescue and repatriation of Indian nationals actively with the local Ministry of Foreign Affairs and other concerned Government agencies of the host country like Immigration, Labour Department, Home Affairs, Defence and Border Affairs and law enforcement agencies.
