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| http://www.indianconsulate-sf.org/images/ashokachkra.gif | EMBASSY OF INDIAKUWAIT |

Press Release

 Since 2009, the Embassy has set-up an Indian Community Welfare Fund (ICWF) to provide assistance to Indian community, on a means tested basis in most deserving cases. Following services are rendered under ICWF:

(i) **Boarding and lodging for distressed overseas Indian workers in Household / domestic sectors and unskilled workers; (ii) extending emergency medical care to the overseas Indians in need; (iii) providing air passage to stranded overseas Indians in need;** (iv) **providing initial legal assistance to the overseas Indians in deserving cases,** and; (v) **incurring expenditure on incidentals and for airlifting the mortal remains to India or local cremation/burial of the deceased overseas Indian in such cases where a sponsor is unable or unwilling to do so as per the contract and the family is unable to meet the cost.**

2. The Embassy has been utilizing the funds under ICWF for providing required assistance to distressed Indian workers as per guidelines prescribed. The details of amount spent from ICWF and the total number of beneficiaries and cases of transportation of mortal remains assisted from 2009 till July 2015 are given below for information.

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| ICWF expenditure(January 2009 – July 2015) |
| Year | Total amount of money spent(Indian Rupees) | Total number of persons who benefited from ICWF | Cases of Transportation of Mortal Remains under ICWF |
| 2009 | 83,54,000 | 772 | 46 |
| 2010 | 35,02,000 | 653 | 43 |
| 2011 | 77,63,000 | 1,078 | 45 |
| 2012 | 65,43,000 | 1,037 | 32 |
| 2013 | 90,37,000 | 790 | 24 |
| 2014 | 90,94,000 | 1,141 | 29 |
| Jan-July 2015 | 31,03,000 | 443 | 19 |
| Total  | 4,73,96,000 | 5,914 | 238 |

**6 August 2015**