

Indian Community Welfare Fund

The Indian Community Welfare Fund (ICWF) was instituted under the guidelines of the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India. ICWF is aimed at assisting Overseas Indian nationals in times of distress and emergency in the 'most deserving cases' on a 'means tested basis', including:

- (i) Providing boarding and lodging for distressed overseas Indian workers in household / domestic sectors, and other unskilled workers;
- (ii) Extending emergency medical care to overseas Indians;
- (iii) Providing air passage to stranded overseas Indians; and
- (iv) Expenditure on incidentals and for airlifting the mortal remains to India or local cremation / burial of deceased overseas Indians.
- (v) Legal /financial assistance to Indian women abandoned/ cheated / abused by their NRI/PIO or foreign spouses

ICWF funds can be used to assist **only Indian citizens** residing in the host country or those in distress while visiting a foreign country. Persons of Indian Origin and Overseas Citizens of India Card Holders are **not** eligible for individual financial assistance from ICWF. Ordinarily, only such Indian National(s) who have entered the host country **legally** shall be eligible to receive benefits under this Fund.

An endorsement is mandatory in the Passport and relevant database of ICWF Beneficiary.

The details of the nodal officer for access to ICWF are given below:

Mrs.Poonam Tirkey
Attaché (Consular)
Embassy of India, Antananarivo, Madagascar
e-mail: cons.aanarivo@mea.gov.in