

Part I. India

Part II. U.S. Consulate General information

U.S. Consulate General, Chennai, India
Address: 220 Mount Road, Chennai 600006
Phone: 91 (44) 2857-4000
Website: in.usembassy.gov

State Department Country Specific Information:

<https://travel.state.gov/content/passports/en/country/india.html>

State Department Travel information

<https://travel.state.gov/content/passports/en/alertswarnings.html>

Enrollment with the U.S. Consulate General

<https://step.state.gov/>

Part III. Profile of Religions of the Host Country and Religious Services available to visitors

Country profile: See "Background Note: India"

<http://www.state.gov/r/pa/ei/bgn/3454.htm>

Religious Activities For Visitors: See Post Reports On Line for Chennai

http://diplopedia.state.gov/index.php/Chennai,_India_Post_Report

Part IV. Funeral Directors, Mortician and Related Services Available in Consular District:

Disclaimer: The U.S. Consulate, Chennai, India, assumes no responsibility or liability for the professional ability or reputation of, or the quality of services provided by, the following firms. Professional credentials and areas of expertise are provided by the funeral directors, morticians and other service providers.

1) J Fenn & Co

348 & 350 Anna Salai
Chennai 600 006
India
Phone: 91 (44) 2829 0628; (91) 988 455 8232; (91) 944 443 1280
E-mail: JFennandcompany@yahoo.co.in
Fenn and Co offers services in Chennai and Pondicherry.

2) Kumar and Co International

171/1 6th Cross, 8th Main, Malleswaram

Bengaluru, Karnataka 560 003

India

Phone: 91 (80) 4065 9999; 91 (80) 2336 7925; (91) 9880 282 446; (91) 98442 60617

E-mail: kumarinternational2017@gmail.com, kumarcointernational@gmail.com

Website: www.kumarcointernational.com

3) GAC Shipping India Pvt. Ltd.

No.15, C.H.A. Building,

Nedumbassery Airport

Cochin-683 111, Kerala

India

Phone: 91 484 2611019, (91) 093886 29505

E-mail: aircargo.cochin@gac.com

4) John Pinto International P. Ltd – Undertaker (services throughout India)

Shop No 421, Ward-XXX11

Unichira, Edappally

Ernakulum- 682 024Kerala,

India

Mobile: 08086066208

Email: sajukumarsheejaonline@gmail.com; johnpintointl@yahoo.co.in

5) John Pinto International P. Ltd – Undertaker (services throughout India)

28, Ready Money Building, Shop #7, Clara Road, Byculla

Mumbai Central Mumbai 400 008

Phone: 022-23076190, 022-23071927

Mobile: 011-91-9820239409 or 011-91-9869433609

Email: johnpintointl@yahoo.co.in

6) St. Peter's Undertaker

16, Kammanahalli Main Road

Bangalore – 560 084

Mobile: 98440 88147, 99800 58584

Email: stpeters@usa.net

www.stpetersundertaker.com

Embalming is done in all Government run hospitals and selected private hospitals in Chennai's consular district. Mortuaries are available in all Government run hospitals and a few private hospitals in South India. Embalming is mandatory if the remains are to be shipped. The laws governing shipment of remains apply nationwide.

Part V. Profile of services available in the host country regarding preparation and shipment of remains:

Due to limited refrigerated storage facilities available at hospitals, prompt arrangements for transfer of the body to a funeral home are required.

1. Maximum period before burial:

Embalmed remains may be held for an indefinite period if authorized by a physician or local health authorities. Depending on space in the mortuary and other factors, unclaimed remains may be held for only a short period, perhaps 72 hours. In other cases, unclaimed remains may be held one month up or more depending upon the nature of death. In the event attempts to locate next-of-kin have failed, the unclaimed remains may be disposed of in a manner deemed appropriate by the police. The remains may be handed over to a teaching medical institution or a hospital for the purpose of anatomical examination.

2. Embalming:

Embalming facilities are available at all major cities in the consular district. Embalming should be carried out as soon as possible, preferably within 24 hours of death. Embalming in India involves injecting formalin into the jugular/femoral vein; the amount injected depends on the condition/weight of the remains and the cause of death.

3. Cremation:

Local and national law permits cremation. Cremation is done according to local customs on pyres of fire-wood and cowdung cakes. Electric crematoria also exist in all major cities.

4. Caskets and Containers:

Caskets and containers meet the requirements for shipment out of the country. They are constructed by professional undertakers.

5. Exportation of remains:

The following certificates must accompany the remains when they are removed from one state to another:

- 1) Official death certificate;
- 2) Permission from the Police Commissioner or the District Magistrate.

The following certificates are required to ship ashes abroad:

- 1) Official death certificate;
- 2) Certificate from the crematory;

3) A sealing certificate issued by the undertaker.

The following certificates must be produced along with the customs shipping bill filed with the customs authorities for shipping remains abroad:

- 1) Official death certificate;
 - 2) Permission from the Police Commissioner or District Magistrate;
 - 3) Certificate of Embalming from the physician;
 - 4) An affidavit from undertaker stating that the remains have been properly packed;
- 5) Consular Mortuary Certificate.

6) Costs:

All prices quoted below are estimated shipping costs only and may be subject to change.

a) Local Burial: Fees include collection of remains, teak plywood coffin, masonry grave and administrative fees - \$900 - \$1200

b) Cremation to include collection and disposition of ashes - \$800 - \$1300

c) Cremation and shipment of ashes by air to U.S.

Estimated cost includes casket, use of a hearse, crematorium charges, container of ashes and undertaker fees. Air shipment charges for cremated ashes are not included; the cost is calculated as per airway bill and destination. \$1000 - \$1500

d) Embalming and shipment of remains by air to the U.S.

Price includes embalming, necessary packing cases (coffin box, inner zinc box and outer packing case) sealing, labor, legal documentation, local transportation and charges of the undertaker. \$3500 - \$4000

In addition to the cost indicated above, the following are the air shipment estimates for 100 kilos from Chennai to:

East Coast (New York) \$4000

West Coast (Los Angeles) \$5000

7. Exhumation:

Permission must be obtained from the local magistrate.

8. Autopsies:

Autopsies are performed when death occurs as a result of an accident or when the cause of death is unknown. There is no waiver of autopsy available, even for religious objections, if the local authorities deem it necessary.

9. Remarks:

Occasionally, administrative delays in exportation may occur if local officials are not familiar with the process