

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
LABOUR  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2994  
ANSWERED ON:22.12.2003  
IMMIGRANTS TO DEVELOPED COUNTRIES  
P. RAJENDRAN

**Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the increasing immigrants from India to the developed countries;
- (b) if so, the details including the number of such immigrants for the last three years, year-wise, country-wise;
- (c) whether the Government has initiated any step to facilitate economic emigration to developed countries;
- (d) if so, the details including the basic training to be given to the potential unskilled immigrant labour; and
- (e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to minimise the role of middle man in illegal immigration?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI SAHIB SINGH VERMA)

(a) & (b): The Government does not maintain such specific data. However, the number of persons granted emigration clearance for employment abroad during the last three years are as follows:

2002: 3.68 lakhs  
2001: 2.79 lakhs  
2000: 2.43 lakhs

(c) & (d): The Government had introduced the Emigration (Amendment ) Bill, 2002 in the Lok Sabha on 21.11.2002 which has been referred to the Standing Committee on Labour and Welfare. It is proposed, through the Amendment Bill, to set-up a Central Manpower Export Promotion Council and establish an Indian Overseas Workers` Welfare Fund. A compulsory Insurance Scheme has been notified on 13.11.2003 and emigration procedures simplified.

(e): The Government deals strictly with illegal immigration. All such cases are referred to the Police authorities for booking the unregistered recruiting agents. All State Governments and Union Territory Administrations have also been requested to instruct the Police Stations to keep a strict vigil on the activities of middlemen engaged in illegal emigration.