

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2754
ANSWERED ON:09.08.2000
PIO CARD HOLDERS
VILAS BABURAO MUTTEMWAR

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have formulated any novel scheme for the foreign citizens of Indian origin to take up employment in India without seeking prior permission from the Government;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the number of PIO card holders who are seeking employment in India; and
- (d) the number of persons out of them provided with the jobs so far, state-wise?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA)

- (a) & (b) Holders of the Persons of Indian origin card (PIO Card) are entitled to take up employment in India without obtaining an employment visa. They do not require any separate permission from the Government of India, unless specified in the recruitment conditions for the job.
- (c) & (d) Since PIO Card holders do not need separate approval for obtaining employment in India, information about the number of jobs taken up by them is not available. However, the number would be very small as the total number of PIO Cards issued till date is about 700.