GOVERNMENT OF INDIA LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3787
ANSWERED ON:23.08.2004
INDIAN LABOURERS ABROAD
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Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of Indian labourers working in foreign countries including Gulf countries during the last three years and current year, State-wise;
- (b) the policy of the Government to check the fraudulent agents and illegal emigration of labourers;
- (c) whether the Government has received some complaints from labourers regarding injustice and exploitation; and
- (d) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SIS RAM OLA)

(a): 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:

2003 4.66 lakhs 2002 3.68 lakhs 2001 2.79 lakhs

- (b): The Government deals strictly with illegal emigration. 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 Authorities to keep a strict vigil on the activities of unregistered agents engaged in illegal emigration.
- (c) & (d): Some complaints have been received relating to injustice and exploitation of labourers abroad. As and when such complaints are received, the Indian Missions/local agents are requested/directed to settle the matter with the help of concerned Governments/Sponsors. If the recruiting agents does not comply with the directions of the Government, action is taken to suspend/cancel his registration. Foreign employers who violate the terms of employment are placed in the `Prior Approval Category'/black listed.