

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3128

ANSWERED ON:05.09.2007

ILL-TREATMENT OF INDIANS ABROAD

Khaira Shri Chandrakant Bhaurao;Naik Shri Shripad Yasso;Pandey Dr. Laxminarayan

Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether cases of ill-treatment of Indians abroad have been reported with the concerned Protector of Emigrants (PoEs) during the last three years alongwith complaints lodged against the illegal recruiting agencies;
- (b) if so, details thereof and the action taken thereon;
- (c) the number of persons compensated during the last three years under the Pravasi Bima Scheme;
- (d) the instructions/guidelines issued to the State Government/police authorities to ban the unregistered illegal recruiting agencies;
- (e) whether the people of Indian Origin living in the Gulf countries are not safe as per the report of Community welfare Department of Indian Embassy in Riyadh;
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefore; and
- (g) the corrective measures taken for the security of the persons of Indian Origin?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI)

(a) & (b): Yes Sir. Cases of ill-treatment of workers abroad are reported from time to time, which are received in the Ministry from the Protector of Emigrants, Indian Missions abroad and from the emigrants also. In the cases of such emigrants recruited by the registered recruiting agents, action is taken like issuance of show cause notice, suspension /cancellation of the registration certificates. Cases regarding persons having been sent by unregistered agents are referred to state police authorities for taking necessary legal action. A statement on the number of complaints received in the Ministry against the registered as well as unregistered recruiting agents and the action taken thereon is furnished at Annexure-I.

(c) As per available information, upto February, 2007, 249 claims had been settled.

(d) From time to time, the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs has been writing to the Chief Ministers of various labour exporting states like Punjab, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala etc to take stringent action against unregistered illegal recruiting agents. The Chief Secretaries of the State Governments were also apprised of the situation and were requested to monitor such complaints and take up with the state police authorities for due legal action. This is a continuous process and from time to time this is reiterated.

(f) to (g): The Community Welfare Wing of the Embassy of India in Saudi Arabia has not reported that people of Indian origin living in the Kingdom are not safe.