

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4122
ANSWERED ON:21.04.2010
SETTING UP OF NODAL DEPARTMENT/CELL
Majumdar Shri Prasanta Kumar; Tirkey Shri Manohar

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

- (a) whether the Union Government has asked the State Governments to set up a nodal department/cell in their State to address the issues relating to Indians living abroad and legal migration from the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the reaction of the States;
- (c) whether some States including Kerala and Andhra Pradesh have already set up such department/cell;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Union Government has also requested States to vigorously launch skill development and pre-departure programmes and orientation programmes for those seeking to migrate from the country; and
- (f) if so, the number of States that have agreed to the proposal?

Answer

MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI)

(a) to (f): During the Annual Consultation Meetings organized by the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs with the major labour sending States at New Delhi in July 2008 and September 2009, the Ministry had requested the State Governments to set up Nodal Department / Cell in their States to address various issues relating to overseas Indians. Nodal Departments / Cells have already been set up by Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Punjab, Haryana, Gujarat, Rajasthan, Karnataka and Manipur while other State Governments have agreed to set up Nodal Departments/ Cells. The Ministry has also requested the major labour sending States to undertake Skill Development and Pre-departure Orientation Programmes for intending migrant workers. Such training programmes are underway.