

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1803
ANSWERED ON:04.08.2010
LEGAL PROCEDURE IN UAE
Reddy Shri K. Jayasurya Prakash

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

- (a) whether India and United Arab Emirates propose to revamp legal procedures to settle the hardships faced by the skilled Indian employees;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the MoUs signed so far in this regard; and
- (d) the steps taken to pay compensation to the innocent victims who are put to hardships in the Gulf countries?

Answer

MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI)

(a) to (d): The legal procedures that apply in the settlement of hardships of overseas Indian workers in the United Arab Emirates are governed by the national legislations in the respective countries as well as the terms and conditions of the 'Work Contracts' entered into between the employees & the employers. However, to enhance bilateral cooperation in matters relating to the protection and welfare of Indian workers a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been signed between India and the UAE. The MoU provides for a Joint Working Group which regularly meets to discuss and resolve issues relating to overseas Indian workers. Similar labour welfare and protection MoUs have also been signed with Kuwait, Qatar, Jordan, Bahrain, Oman and Malaysia. Compensation where due is paid by the employer or the insurance companies as per the Employment Contract or UAE Labour Law or Judgement of UAE Courts. Indian Missions facilitate the process. The Mission also repatriates the individuals in distress using the Indian Community Welfare Fund (ICWF).