

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4032
ANSWERED ON:18.08.2010
EMPLOYMENT ABROAD
Rawat Shri Ashok Kumar

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

- (a) whether certain foreign Governments have expressed interest in employing Indian labourers particularly in the construction industry;
- (b) if so, the names of such countries and the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to send skilled/semi-skilled labourers to such countries;
- (c) the details of the agreements signed with these countries in this regard especially with regard to wages and facilities;
- (d) the policy of the Government in this regard alongwith the existing provisions regarding supplying labourers to the foreign countries;
- (e) the State-wise number of registered agencies engaged in supplying labourers to foreign countries;
- (f) the State-wise number of persons sent abroad by the said agencies during each of the last three years till date; and
- (g) the details of trades/skills in demand in the international market?

Answer

MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI)

(a) & (b): Indian workers emigrate every year for overseas employment in different sectors including the construction industry. During 2009 about 6.10 lakh Indian workers emigrated under the Emigration Act, 1983. About 90% of this emigration takes place to the Gulf Countries.

(c): India signed Labour Agreements with Jordan and Qatar in 1980s. The MoU with the UAE was signed in December, 2006, with Kuwait in April 2007, with Oman in November 2008, with Malaysia in January, 2009 and with Bahrain in June, 2009. An Additional Protocol to the existing Labour Agreement between India and Qatar was signed on 20th November, 2007. These Labour MoUs provide the framework for bilateral cooperation for enhancing protection and welfare of our workers abroad.

(d): The emigration of Indian workers for overseas employment in low and semi-skilled category is governed by under the Emigration Act, 1983. Bilateral MoUs provide for protection and welfare of Indian workers.

(e) & (f): There are about 2,000 registered recruiting agents. The majority of these agents are concentrated in Mumbai, Delhi, Chennai, Hyderabad, Cochin and Trivandrum. About 90% of all emigration under the Emigration Act, 1983 takes place through these RAs. State-wise trend of emigration for last 5 years is enclosed at Annexure.

(g): The Construction, hospitality and health sectors are in particular demand in the international labour market.