

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5385
ANSWERED ON:13.12.2010
EMPLOYMENT FOR FOREIGNERS
Shukla Shri Balkrishna Khanderao Balu Shukla

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has opened its door for employment of foreigners in the country;
- (b) if so, the reasons for ignoring educated but unemployed Indians and preferring the foreigners in this regard; and
- (c) the provisions made for the employment of foreigners?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT(SHRI HARISH RAWAT)

(a) to (c) The guidelines on Employment Visa have been reviewed by the Government with a view to ensure that Employment Visa is granted only for highly skilled and /or qualified personnel. It has been decided that a foreign national being sponsored for an Employment Visa in any sector should draw a salary in excess of US\$ 25,000 per annum. However, this condition of annual floor limit on income will not apply to (a) Ethnic cooks, (b) Language teachers (other than English language teachers)/ translators and (c) Staff working for the concerned Embassy/High Commission in India. A separate visa regime, labelled as project ('P') visa within the Employment Visa chapter, has been introduced for foreign nationals coming to India for execution of projects in the power and steel sectors.