

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1729  
ANSWERED ON:10.08.2011  
SOCIAL SECURITY AGREEMENTS  
Antony Shri Anto

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

- (a) whether the Government has concluded any Social Security Agreements (SSA) with foreign Governments;
- (b) if so, the details and the salient features thereof, country-wise;
- (c) whether the Government is in negotiation with any other country in this regard;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether there is any provision under SSA to provide insurance and pension coverage to the Indians working abroad;
- (e) if so, the details thereof including the number and type of beneficiaries and amount spent, country-wise;
- (g) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (h) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to make provision in the SSA for insurance and pension to workers?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI)

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b): Bilateral social security agreements protect the interests of Indian professionals by providing following benefits:

# exemption from social security contribution for the posted (detached) workers (provided the worker is covered under the Indian social security system and continues to pay his contribution to the Indian system during the period of contract).

# exportability of benefits in case of relocation to India or any other country after having made social security contribution.

# totalization of the periods of contribution pertaining to both countries for the purpose of assessing eligibility for benefit/pension under the legislation of each country.

I. The Government has so far concluded the Social Security Agreements with the following countries:

Belgium, France, Germany (social insurance for posted workers only), Switzerland, Luxembourg and Denmark.

II. Countries with which India has already signed Social Security Agreements but the Agreements have not come into force due to finalization of forms being under process:

The Netherlands, Hungary, Czech Republic, Norway and South Korea.

(c): Yes, Sir

(d): The Government is in negotiations on Social Security Agreements with Portugal, Canada, Finland, Germany, Austria, Sweden, Australia and Japan.

(e): Yes, Sir

(f): The SSA provides for pension and insurance benefits to Indian workers working abroad in the countries with whom India has entered into an SSA. As on 01.08.2011, 4982 Indians have been beneficiaries of the provision of detachment under an SSA, whereby they are required to be mandatorily provided insurance and pension coverage in India so as to be exempt from foreign social security contributions. Benefits are payable on fulfilling of the eligibility criteria for the respective benefits.

The details of 'Certificate of Coverage' issued for the purpose of detachment in respect of Indian Workers working in Belgium,

Germany and Switzerland are mentioned below;

Belgium: 2605

Germany: 2224

Switzerland: 153

(g) & (h): Do not arise in view of reply to (e) & (f) above.