

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3227
ANSWERED ON:14.12.2011
LABOURERS TO FOREIGN COUNTRIES
Agarwal Shri Jai Prakash

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

- (a) whether certain foreign Governments have shown their keen interest in inviting country's labourers to their countries, specifically for engagement of these labourers in construction industries there;
- (b) if so, the details of these countries and the steps proposed to be taken to send country's skilled/semi-skilled labourers to these countries;
- (c) the extant policy of the Government in this regard and the existing system pertaining to sending of labourers to international market;
- (d) the State-wise number of the registered agencies sending labourers in other countries as on date;
- (e) the State-wise number of the persons sent to other countries through agencies during each of the last three years and the current year as also the details of the trades/skills in demand in international market;
- (f) the number and details regarding the cases involving exploitation of persons by these agencies; and
- (g) the State-wise details of above agencies and the action taken/proposed to be taken against these agencies during the said period till date?

Answer

MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI)

(a): Indian workers are in demand abroad in various sectors including construction work.

(b) & (c): The demand of labourers from India for construction works is mainly from Gulf countries, namely, The United Arab Emirates, Oman, The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Qatar and Kuwait. The trades/ professions in demand in the above mentioned countries are mason, carpenter, plumber, steel fixer, reinforcing fitter, blacksmith, tile fixer, painter, electrician, plasterer, scaffolder, labourer, etc. Section 22 of the Emigration Act, 1983 read with Rule 16 of the Emigration (Amendment) Rules, 2009 regulates emigration clearance to 17 ECR (Emigration Clearance Required) notified countries.

The State-wise number of registered agencies is given at Annexure-I.

(e): The State-wise number of persons granted emigration clearance during the last three years and the current year is given in Annexure-II. A Statement showing trades/skills for which emigration clearance granted is given at Annexure-III.

(f) & (g): From time to time, complaints are received from emigrant workers against recruiting agents. On receipt of complaint(s) under Emigration Act show-cause notice is issued to the registered recruiting agents against whom complaints are received and the Recruiting Agent is directed to settle/resolve the complaint in the first instance. If the Recruiting Agent fails to respond to the Show-Cause Notice or his reply is not satisfactory, his Registration Certificate is initially suspended for 30 days. If the complaint still remains unresolved, the Registration Certificate is suspended for a further period and action is initiated for the cancellation of the Registration Certificate and forfeiture of Bank Guarantee, as warranted. Details of complaints received against the registered Recruiting Agents during the last three years are given at Annexure-IV.

State-wise details of recruiting agencies against whom action is taken, are not maintained.