

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:370  
ANSWERED ON:02.05.2012  
DEMAND FOR INDIAN WORKERS  
Abdulrahman Shri ;Kodikunnil Shri Suresh

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

- (a) whether there is a huge demand for Indian workers of various skill levels including housemaids and home nurses overseas;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any steps have been taken by the Government to encourage orderly and legal emigration of such people and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government has conducted any study regarding the working conditions of the housemaids, nurses and other Indians working overseas; and
- (e) if so, the details and the outcome thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI)

(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 370 FOR REPLY ON 02nd MAY, 2012 BY SHRI ABDUL RAHMAN AND SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH ON "DEMAND FOR INDIAN WORKERS"

(a) to (c): There is a demand for Indian workers of various skill levels including housemaids and home nurses abroad. The countries where Indian workers are in demand include the Gulf countries, Malaysia, Singapore and also some countries in Europe. The recruitment of home nurses with educational qualification above class 10, and also those emigrating to non-Emigration Clearance Required countries, is not regulated under the Emigration Act, 1983. As such, no data is available in this regard with the Ministry. The policy of the Government is to facilitate orderly and legal emigration of Indian workers including female workers, discourage illegal/irregular migration and ensure the protection and welfare of emigrants in accordance with the Emigration Act and Rules made thereunder for ECR passport holders emigrating to 17 ECR notified countries. For the protection of female domestic household workers in the above category, the govt. has laid down a minimum age restriction of 30 years for eligibility to migrate and made it mandatory for the employment contract to be pre-attested by the Indian Mission. The employer is also required to provide a prepaid mobile phone and make a deposit of a security amount of US\$ 2500 with the Indian Mission. The government has signed MOUs on labour with seven major labour receiving countries, namely, Jordan, UAE, Kuwait, Qatar, Oman, Bahrain and Malaysia, to lay down the framework for bilateral cooperation for the protection and welfare of workers. Besides, the Government has also signed and operationalized Social Security Agreements (SSAs), to safeguard the social security concerns of Indians employed abroad, with eight countries, viz., Belgium, France, Germany, Switzerland, Luxembourg, Denmark, the Netherlands and South Korea.

(d): No, Madam.

(e): Does not arise.