

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4450
ANSWERED ON:07.09.2012
REMITTANCES FROM NRIS
Karunakaran Shri P.

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

- (a) the details of the remittances made by Non-Resident Indians (NRIs) particularly from gulf countries during each of the last three years and the current year;
- (b) whether any rehabilitation scheme is in place for NRIs who want to settle in India after retirement; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI)

(a) Remittance/private transfers by NRIs during the last three years were :

Year	Private Transfers	(US\$ million)
2009-10	53,636	
2010-11	55,618	
2011-12	66,129	

Remittances made by Overseas Indians from Gulf countries, according to a study conducted by the RBI, accounted for an average of 27% of the total remittance inflows to India during the first half of 2009-10

(b) & (c): No, Madam. There is no such scheme. However, the Government has launched the "Mahatma Gandhi Pravasi Suraksha Yojana" (MGPSY) for Indian workers holding Emigration Check Required (ECR) passports and a valid work permit in an Contd ECR country. By providing a co-contribution from the Government, this scheme encourages and enables Overseas Indian Workers to save for their return and resettlement and to save for their old age. This also provides a free life insurance cover against natural death during the period of coverage, under the scheme.

The following facilities are also available to returning NRIs/PIOs

1. Returning NRIs/PIOs may continue to hold, own, transfer or invest in foreign currency, foreign security or any immovable property situated outside India, if such currency, security or property was acquired, held or owned when resident outside India.
2. The income and sale proceeds of assets held abroad need not be repatriated.
3. (a) Returning NRIs /PIOs may open, hold and maintain with an authorised dealer in India a Resident Foreign Currency (RFC) Account to transfer balances held in Non-Resident (External) Rupee/Foreign Currency Non-Residential NRE/FCNR(B) accounts.
3. (b) Proceeds of assets held outside India at the time of return can be credited to RFC account.
3. (c) The funds in RFC accounts are free from all restrictions regarding utilisation of foreign currency balances including any restriction on investment in any form outside India.
3. (d) RFC accounts can be maintained in the form of current or savings or term deposit accounts, where the account holder is an individual and in the form of current or term deposits in all other cases.