

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2180  
ANSWERED ON:18.12.2013  
BILATERAL LABOUR AGREEMENTS  
Ahmed Shri Sultan ;Reddy Shri Modugula Venugopala

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

- (a) whether the Government has signed any social security/safety agreements with various countries to protect the persons of Indian origin living/working in those countries;
- (b) if so, the details and the salient features of the said agreements, country-wise;
- (c) whether the Government is in negotiation with any other country in this regard and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether instances of violation of the said agreements by certain countries have been reported/come to the notice of the Government during the last three years and the current year and if so, the details thereof, year-wise, country-wise; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI)

(a): Government of India has signed Social Security Agreements (SSA) with various countries

(b): Government of India has signed SSA with Belgium, Germany, France, Switzerland, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Denmark, South Korea, Hungary, The Czech Republic, Norway, Finland, Canada, Japan, Sweden, Austria, Portugal and Understanding on Social Security with Quebec (a province of Canada).

In general the salient features of a comprehensive Social Security Agreement are:

- (i) For short term contract, no social security contribution would need to be paid by Indian workers in these countries provided they continue to make contribution in India.
- (ii) Indian workers shall be entitled to the export of the social security benefit on their relocation to India.
- (iii) The period of contribution in one contracting state will be added to the period of contribution in the other contracting state for determining the eligibility for social security benefits.

The feature mentioned at (iii) above is not included in the social security agreements with Belgium, Switzerland, Netherlands, Denmark and the Czech Republic.

(c): Negotiations are underway with Russia, Thailand, Spain and Sri Lanka and are over with Australia.

(d): No instance of violation has been reported or come to the notice of Ministry.

(e): In view of reply to part (d) question does not arise.