

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3497  
ANSWERED ON:12.02.2014  
AGREEMENTS TO PROTECT INDIANS ABROAD  
Mani Shri Jose K.

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

- (a) whether India has signed any agreements with any country to ensure the safety and protection of immigrant Indians in those countries;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, including the countries with which India is likely to sign such agreements; and
- (c) the steps taken or being taken by the Government for effective implementation of such agreements?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI)

(a) Yes, Madam.

(b) The Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs has signed Bilateral Agreement/ Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) on labour with Qatar, United Arab Emirates, Kuwait, Oman, Malaysia and Bahrain. An Agreement on Labour Co- operation for Domestic Service Workers Recruitment between India and Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has also been signed. Ministry has also initiated the process of negotiating similar memoranda with Jordan and Libya.

(c) Joint Working Groups (JWGs) consisting of members from both countries have been constituted for implementing the MoUs.

The JWG deals with issues like minimum wages, documentation, redressal of labour dispute, working conditions, sharing of experience in manpower deployment, exchange of information on related legislative and administrative measures and also labour market information etc.

The agreement/ MoUs also provide a mutually agreed framework to the Indian Missions for taking up issues with the host country on a continuous basis.