

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4096
ANSWERED ON:19.02.2014
PRAVASI BHARTIYA FACILITATION CENTRES
J Helen Davidson

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

- (a) whether the Government has any plans to set up more Pravasi Bhartiya Facilitation Centres in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor and the number of such Centres established in the country so far with their details?

Answer

MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI)

(a) to (b). No Madam, the Government has no plan to set up more Pravasi Bhartiya facilitation centres (Overseas Indian Facilitation Centre) in the country.

(c). Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs has established Overseas Indian Facilitation Centre (OIFC) in partnership with Confederation of Indian Industry (CII). Overseas Indian Facilitation Centre (OIFC) disseminates information through its business networking portal and also reaches out to the Diaspora in various parts of the world through Diaspora Engagement Meets. OIFC builds partnership with State Governments and it also works through the State chapter of the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII).

OIFC help partners States to project their investment opportunities. Each state partner is given a dedicated webpage on the OIFC portal to project state information, investment opportunities, projects etc. The States are also involved in the query addressal system to answer State specific queries of Overseas Indians. Currently Assam, Bihar, Gujarat, Haryana, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra, Odisha, Punjab, Rajasthan and Tamil Nadu are partner States of OIFC.

Since OIFC is a central body and functions independently as well as through partnerships with States and also the portal specially designed to render services to Overseas Indians, there is no plan to set up more such centres.