

Title: Need to simplify the procedure for attestation of documents of citizens seeking jobs abroad-laid.

SHRI M. APPADURAI (TENKASI): Attestation of degree diplomas and certificates obtained from the Educational Institutions in India is mandatory for educated Indian Youth seeking job in the Middle East countries. The Embassies of those countries are required to attest them in Delhi after their being attested by both the Union Human Resources Development Ministry and the External Affairs Ministry. Till recently both the attestations were carried out in two different locations in Delhi requiring anxious Middle-East jobseekers and their family members to travel to Delhi all the way from their respective states spending time, energy and money. This cumbersome and avoidable hardship caused to hapless jobseekers has been further complicated now with the delinking of this double attestation. HRD Ministry has now entrusted this with the offices in the State Secretariats in the respective state capitals. When every state capital has got a passport office under the External Affairs Ministry, the Union Government can do well to come to the rescue of the Indian public by way of providing both the attestation facility at the respective State Headquarters. If our External Affairs Ministry can arrange for online attestation facility tying up with such Middle East countries at a nominal fee, this will be an additional earning to our exchequer while helping the innocent masses to avoid spending heavily on avoidable travel to the National Capital.

Hence, I urge upon our External Affairs Ministry to take up this urgently and if need be to co-ordinate with the Union Labour Ministry as they have been co-ordinating already with Department of Posts.