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Title: Need to formulate a policy for rehabilitation of Indian paramedics evacuated from strife-torn countries.

SHRI JOSE K. MANI (KOTTAYAM): I wish to congratulate the Indian Government for its swift and efficient operation in Yemen rescuing close to 5000 people. Kerala has been the worst affected state in such situations, which are recurring now in its unfailing regularity. Thousands of Indian citizens have been evacuated from the conflict zones in Libya, Iraq, Yemen etc through the years. In this backdrop, I welcome the decision of the government to allow qualified paramedics to be recruited only through the government agencies. I hope this move is also extended to other sectors like Infrastructure/Construction and Energy.

It is important to consider that most of the people who go abroad for the purpose of employment are professionals; mostly paramedics have loans to repay and also the brokerage they pay to the agents to get placed abroad. The same is true for the labour community. It becomes a compulsion for them to go abroad and work irrespective of how dangerous the situation might become in those countries. In Kerala, people are registered with Norka which is a government agency. The central government should come up with a policy which along with the state government should ensure rehabilitation of people registered with state agencies by way of providing reservations in public and private hospitals and other relevant places or giving them temporary rehabilitation packages. This would also encourage the people to register with state agencies so that they can be tracked in case of emergencies and prevent them from falling prey to dubious agents.

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