

Government of India
Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1365
To be answered on 22nd August, 2007

AGENCIES SENDING INDIANS ABROAD

1365. SHRI M. APPADURAI:
SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE:
SHRI BADIGA RAMA KRISHNA:
SHRI RANEN BARMAN:

Will the MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
प्रवासी भारतीय कार्य मंत्री

- (a) the number of registered/recognized employment agencies functioning in the country who are sending labours/workers/skilled and unskilled workers to foreign countries, State-wise;
- (b) whether some travel agencies in the metropolitan cities including Mumbai, are extracting heavy amount from people in the name of offering lucrative jobs in foreign countries including the Gulf countries;
- (c) if so, the number of cases which have come to the notice of the Government during the last three years, State-wise;
- (d) the details of the agencies against whom action has been taken, State-wise;
- (e) whether the Government proposes to regulate and formally recruit the labourers going abroad; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS
(SHRI VAYALAR RAVI)

- (a) Enclosed as Annexure-I.
- (b), (c) & (d): Complaints are received from time to time regarding recruitment of labourers/workers by unregistered agencies, including travel agencies, who send them abroad for work in violations of the provisions of the Emigration Act. Such

contd 2.....

...2...

cases are sent to the State Police authorities for due legal action. The number of complaints against unregistered agencies state-wise received during 2004, 2005 and 2006 is enclosed as Annexure-II. The number of prosecution sanctions issued in 2004, 2005 and 2006 is enclosed as Annexure-III.

(e)&(f): To regulate and protect the rights and welfare of the Indian emigrants, comprehensive amendment of the Emigration Act, 1983 is underway.

**REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED
QUESTION NO. 1365 TO BE ANSWERED ON 22.08.2007**

**NUMBER OF REGISTERED RECRUITING AGENTS UNDER THE
EMIGRATION ACT, 1983 AS ON 31.07.2007, STATE-WISE**

Sr. No.	State/UT	Number of registered recruiting agents
1.	Andhra Pradesh	82
2.	Chandigarh	47
3.	Delhi	316
4.	Goa	22
5.	Gujarat	17
6.	Haryana	11
7.	Himachal Pradesh	1
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	3
9.	Karnataka	31
10.	Kerala	226
11.	Madhya Pradesh	2
12.	Maharashtra	682
13.	Mizoram	2
14.	Orissa	1
15.	Pondicherry	1
16.	Punjab	86
17.	Rajasthan	39
18.	Tamilnadu	216
19.	Uttar Pradesh	12
20.	Uttaranchal	1
21.	West Bengal	10
	Total	1808

REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (b), (c) & (d) LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1365 TO BE ANSWERED ON 22.08.2007

**NUMBER OF COMPLAINTS AGAINST UNREGISTERED AGENCIES DURING
2004, 2005 AND 2006 – STATE WISE**

S.N.	State/UT	2004	2005	2006
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1	6	5
2.	Chandigarh	1	-	3
3.	Delhi	8	7	10
4.	Goa	-	-	
5.	Gujarat	1	-	
6.	Haryana	2	1	2
7.	Himachal Pradesh	-	-	
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	-	-	
9.	Karnataka	-	2	
10.	Kerala	5	10	25
11.	Madhya Pradesh	-	-	
12.	Maharastra	10	13	4
13.	Mizoram	-	-	
14.	Orissa	-	-	
15.	Pondicherry	-	-	
16.	Punjab	2	1	
17.	Rajasthan	-	-	
18.	Tamilnadu	4	8	27
19.	Uttar Pradesh	1	-	
20.	West Bengal	3	3	2
21.	Miscellaneous		2	
	Total	38	53	78

REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (b), (c) & (d) LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1365 TO BE ANSWERED ON 22.08.2007

PROSECUTION SANCTION ISSUED DURING THE YEARS 2004, 2005 & 2006

YEAR 2004

SL. NO.	NAME OF THE AGENT
1.	SHRI SHAIK MOULA AND SHRI GANGI REDDY, AP
2.	M/S INTERNATION MANPOWER RESOURCES, DELHI
3.	HENRY PAUL DENTIS OF M/S REIN TRAVELS, MUMBAI
4.	MR. EZAZ HASSAN SHEIKH, MUMBAI
5.	KARAN MONICA EDWARD AND PHARISH ABUBACKER, DELHI
6.	SHRI SALIM JAVEH ALAH PICHAI, MUMBAI
7.	M/S N.S. TRAVEL SERVICES, MUMBAI
8.	S/SHRI ABDUL REHMAN MIRZA KALA, SATYAPAL LEKHRAJ SHARM AND BADRUDDING AHMED PILLAI, MUMBAI
9.	S/SHRI SATYANARAYAN, GANGA RAM AND TANGELA OF MUMBAI

YEAR 2005

SL. NO.	NAME OF THE AGENT
1.	MR. M.S. RAJU OF M/S MSAR INTERNATION CONSULTANTS, HYDERABAD
2.	MR. T. SRIDHAR GOUD AND OTHERS HYDERABAD
3.	MR. MOJIUDDIN SIDDIQUE, MUMBAI
4.	SHRI GAGAN KUMAR GOVARDHAN SHARMA OF M/S S.N. TOURS AND TRAVELS, MUMBAI
5.	SHRI ANJALIN SANJAYAA NAIDU, MUMBAI
6.	JAHIR HUSSAIN OF M/S SANTOSHA ENTERPRISE, CHENNAI
7.	SMT. LOUSY PETER WAZ, ISMAIL KADAR NAIK, MAHESH NANDKUMAR SARVADE, MS. RESHMA IGBAL SAYED, SHAKIR MEMON, ASHIF CHIKODI, AMIR BHAT AND ASLAM
8.	SHIR CHANDU JAGDISH SONE, MUMAI

YEAR 2006

SL. No.	NAME OF THE AGENT
1.	M/s Ayisha Travels, Chennai
2.	Shri K.C. Shanmugam, Chennai
3.	S/Shri. Mylapalli Kanna Rao and Mylapalli Kumar, Visakhapatnam (AP)
4.	Shri Motimari Prasad, Penugonda, West Godawari Distt. (AP)
5.	Shri Mogd. Yasin Shamshuddin Shaikh (11) Mrs. Vajuda Abdul Rajak Tarannam and (iii) Mrs. Seema Chandra, Mumbai
6.	Shri P. Mohd. Koya of m/s Almirash Travels, Panniakara, Desom
7.	Shri Kirpal Singh Malhi, Panchkula of M/s Malhi & Basra Emigration & Allied Services, Chandigarh
8.	S/Shri E.K. Syed Alavi, Malapuram Distt. (2) Aboobaker Desom, Kozhikode Distt and (3) Kunhi Mogd., Kozhikode Distt.
9.	S/Shri Mohd. Ibrahim S/o shri Abdul Mohammed, Lot. 196, Jallan Singai, Putus Batu, Kiang, Solangor, Malaysia, (2) Shri Kumar alia Vasanthakumar S/o Shri K. Ramasamy, No. 34, REamasamy Street, Mannadi, Chennai-I and (3) Shri Kannan alias Ramalinga, S/o Shri Perianayagam, No. 3/8, Vembuli Street, Ramapuram, Chennai
10.	Shri. K. Ansari S/o Shri Khaja Mohideen, No. 10/19, Dr.I Natesan Road, B.B. IInd Land, Triplicane, Chennai-5
11.	Shri Viswajith Misra of M/s Welfare Manpower Supply Co., No. 108/109, 3 rd Floor, Hamidia Shopping Hall, Triplicane High Road, Chennai-600 005
12.	S/Shri S.K. Rathinasamy and A.N. Manoharan of M/s Er. Word, No. 52-20, anna Main Road, MGR Nagar, Chennai
13.	Shri L. Marimuthu S/o Shri K.R. Lakshmanan of M/s G.G. Enterprises, Adayar, Chennai-20
14.	S/Shri Kottai Madasamy S/o Shri Ponnaia, No. 176, Kumaran Nagar, Palayamkottai, Tirunelveli and Prakash S/o Shri Subbaia, no. 2/35-A, Pillayar Koil St., Poganallur, Kodayanallur, Tirunelveli on the allegation that the said persons were running an unauthorized travel agency under the name & style of 'Dhanshini Enterprises' at No.3, Anand Apartments, Casa Major Road, Egmore, Chennai-8
15.	S/Shri Azeez Khan (20 rafeequ and (3) Raja Malikasr of Chennai
16.	Shri R. Vasanthakumar S/o Shri Ramasamy, proprietor of M/s Ganesh Tours & Travels, No. 50, Mannady Street, Ist Floor, Shop No. 5, Chennai-I
17.	Shri Moideen Raja, Prop. Of M/s P.M.S. Exports & Imports, No. 100, Mahalingapuram Main Road, Nungambakkam, Chennai-34
18.	S/Shri Thainis, Rathinam and John Arokiadoss of M/s STS Consultant, No.1, 4 th Floor, Kodambakkam, Chennai-600 024
19.	Vinit Balwant Pathare of M.s Saudi Export and Travels Services, Mumbai
21.	P. Gopalkrishan of M/s Sai Ram Travels, Chennai

Government of India
Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1408
To be answered on 22nd August, 2007

BHARTIYA SUVIDHA KENDRAS FOR NRIs

1408. SHRI AJIT JOGI:
(OIH)

Will the MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
प्रवासी भारतीय कार्य मंत्री

- (a) whether the Government proposes to open Bhartiya Suvidha Kendras for NRIs;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS
(SHRI VAYALAR RAVI)

(a) to (c): Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs has set up an Overseas Indian Facilitation Centre (OIFC) as not-for-profit-trust under the Indian Trust Act, 1882, in partnership with Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), as a 'one stop shop' for serving the interests of overseas Indians.

The objectives of the Centre are to promote overseas Indian investment into India, establish and maintain a Diaspora Knowledge Network (DKN), function as a clearing house for all investment related information, assist States in India to project investment opportunities to overseas Indians in the infrastructure and social sectors and to provide a host of advisory services to Persons of Indian Origin (PIOs) and Non Resident Indians (NRIs) on matters such as consular questions, stay in India, investment and financial issues etc.

Government of India
Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2220
To be answered on 29th August, 2007

INVESTMENT BY NRIS

2220. SHRI NAVEEN JINDAL:

Will the MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

प्रवासी भारतीय कार्य मंत्री

- (a) the total investment made by Overseas Indian during the last three years, year-wise;
- (b) whether the actual investment is in accordance with the anticipated investment;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefore;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to make any institutional arrangements to facilitate higher investment by them; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS
(SHRI VAYALAR RAVI)

(a) to (c): Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) inflow (which includes investment made by Non Resident Indians (NRIs) during the last three years is :

Year	Amount (US \$ billion)
2004-05	3.22
2005-06	5.55
2006-07	15.72

Under the liberalized economic environment, foreign investment is based on techno-economic and commercial considerations of the investor.

(d) to (e): Government has put in place a liberal and transparent policy for FDI, including investments from NRIs, wherein most of the sectors are open to FDI under the automatic route.

Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs has also set up a not-to-profit trust called Overseas Indian Facilitation Centre (OIFC) with the objective of promoting Overseas Indian Investment in India and facilitating Business-to-Business partnership between Indian Business and Overseas Indians.

Government of India
Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2242
To be answered on 29th August, 2007

Collaborative Projects with NRIs

2242. SHRI ABU AYES MONDAL:

Will the MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
प्रवासी भारतीय कार्य मंत्री

- (a) whether the Government has proposed different collaborative projects with NRI's;
- (b) if so, the details of the proposals received so far; and
- (c) the action taken by the Government thereon?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS
(SHRI VAYALAR RAVI)

(a) to (c): A statement is enclosed.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2242 TO BE ANSWERED ON 29.08.2007

COLLABORATIVE PROJECTS WITH NRIs

Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs (MOIA) has two projects with NRIs (Overseas Indians).

1. AAPI – India Health Initiative:

Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs (MOIA) had signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the American Association of Physicians of Indian Origin (AAPI) to implement health care pilot projects in Andhra Pradesh and Bihar. The focus of the projects will be to implement innovative and best practices to enhance access to healthcare, extend education and training for promoting preventive healthcare practices, and initiate capacity building in the community to ensure the prescribed standards of healthcare are achieved.

2. Person of Indian Origin (PIO) University:

The Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs (MOIA) has proposed establishment of a Person of Indian Origin (PIO) / NRI University as a deemed University under section 3 of the UGC Act, with investment from Overseas Indian Societies / Trusts having experience in the field of education. A screening committee has been constituted by the Ministry to scrutinize the proposals received in this connection.

Government of India
Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2264
To be answered on 29th August, 2007

AUTONOMOUS UNIVERSITY FOR NRIS

2264. SHRI RASHEED MASOOD:

Will the MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

प्रवासी भारतीय कार्य मंत्री

- (a) whether the Government has any proposal to set up an Autonomous University for Non Resident Indians (NRIs);
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the location identified for the purpose; and
- (d) the time by which the said University is likely to be set up?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS
(SHRI VAYALAR RAVI)

(a) to (d): A policy framework for setting up a PIO/NRI University at a suitable place in the country, ensuring flexibility in the choice of disciplines and courses offered, has been approved by the Government. Salient features of the proposed University are given in Annexure-I. In response to an advertisement published in India and abroad inviting 'Expression of Interest' for setting up the University, 16 proposals have been received. The proposals will be examined by a Screening Committee constituted for the purpose. The time by which the University would be set up would be known only after the proposals have been examined.

Annexure-I

Annexure-I referred to in reply to Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 2264 to be answered on 29-08-2007

The salient features of the proposed PIO/NRI University are as follows:

- The University will be set up by Overseas Indian Trusts or Societies with credibility and experience in the field of education under the overall supervision of the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs and will have the status of “Deemed University” de novo under Section 3 of the UGC Act.
- 50% seats will be earmarked for PIO/NRI students and 50% for resident Indian students. The existing government policy on reservation will apply for the 50% reserved seats for resident Indian students.
- Full autonomy will be granted to the NRI/PIO University in curriculum design, appointment/selection of personnel, faculty, admission procedure, etc. The University will also enjoy full autonomy in financial matters & fees for NRI/PIO students, intake of PIO/NRI students, etc.
- The proposed NRI/PIO University will conform to the standards set by the regulatory bodies like UGC, AICTE, MCI, etc. as a minimum benchmark. However, the institution has the option to benchmark itself to the best international standards.
- The University will adhere to the norms and procedures of Medical Council of India, Dental Council of India, Indian Nursing Council and Pharmacy Council of India for setting up of Medical College/Dental College/Pharmacy College/Nursing College under their respective Acts and Regulations.

Government of India
Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2293
To be answered on 29th August, 2007

STATUS OF OVERSEAS CITIZEN

2293. SHRI PRABODH PANDA:

Will the MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

प्रवासी भारतीय कार्य मंत्री

- (a) the number of persons of Indian origin who have been granted the status of Overseas Citizen of India (OCI) till date;
- (b) whether the Union Government is exploring the feasibility of extending the benefit of voting right to Overseas Indian Citizens; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS
(SHRI VAYALAR RAVI)

- (a) As of 22 August, 2007, a total number of 1,51,891 OCI documents have been issued to persons of Indian origin.
- (b) No, Sir.
- (c) Does not arise.

Government of India
Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2307
To be answered on 29th August, 2007

MANPOWER EXPORT COUNCILS

2307. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO:

Will the MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
प्रवासी भारतीय कार्य मंत्री

- (a) whether the Government proposes to set up Manpower Export Councils in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the benefits likely to accrue as a result thereof;
- (c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS
(SHRI VAYALAR RAVI)

(a) to (c): Yes Sir. A proposal to establish "Council for Promotion of Overseas Employment" is under consideration of the Government.

Government of India
Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2942
To be answered on 5th September, 2007

FAKE PASSPORTS

2942. SHRI M. APPADURAI:
SHRI RAKESH SINGH:

Will the MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
प्रवासी भारतीय कार्य मंत्री

- (a) whether the cases of sending Indians abroad particularly to Malaysia and Singapore by the agents on fake Passport and visa after collecting huge amount from them have come to the notice of the Government;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the action taken against such agents?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS
(SHRI VAYALAR RAVI)

(a)to(c): The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

Government of India
Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2958
To be answered on 5th September, 2007

WELFARE CENTRES FOR INDIANS ABROAD

2958. SHRI NAVEEN JINDAL:

Will the MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
प्रवासी भारतीय कार्य मंत्री

- (a) whether the Government proposes to open welfare centres to help Indians abroad;
- (b) if so, the locations of these centres;
- (c) the nature of services to be rendered by these centres;
- (d) whether these centres will help Indian brides abandoned in foreign countries; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS
(SHRI VAYALAR RAVI)

(a) & (b): Government has decided to set up an Overseas Indian Center at Dubai to assist the Overseas Indians in the Gulf countries. Besides, posts of Counsellors, Community Affairs (Development) have been created in Washington and Kuala Lumpur, as part of Indian Missions in these countries. The Counsellor in Washington will cater to the Overseas Indians in USA and Canada and Counsellor in Kuala Lumpur will cater to the Overseas Indians in Malaysia, Singapore and Brunei.

(c) The proposed Overseas Indian Center and Counselors will primarily function as the overseas field formations of the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs. They will inter-alia promote public-private partnerships with overseas Indian apex organizations and professional institutions. They will also provide for legal, financial and health counseling for the benefit of overseas Indians.

(d) & (e): Yes, Sir. The Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs has announced a scheme for giving legal/financial assistance to women deserted by their overseas Indian spouses. Under the Scheme counseling and legal services would be provided through credible Indian Women's Organizations/Indian Community Associations and NGOs empanelled with the Indian Missions in the USA, UK, Canada, Australia, New Zealand and the Gulf.

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2962
To be answered on 5th September, 2007

TRAINING FOR UNEDUCATED INDIANS GOING ABROAD

2962. SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA:
(OIH)

Will the MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
प्रवासी भारतीय कार्य मंत्री

- (a) whether the Government proposes to provide training to the illiterate and less educated people moving to foreign countries particularly to the Gulf countries for employment;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the funds earmarked for the purpose and amount released thereunder during 2006-07, State-wise?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS
(SHRI VAYALAR RAVI)

(a) & (b): The Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs has formulated a scheme 'Orientation-cum-Training Programme for overseas Indian workers' in the year 2006-07 in consultation with the State Governments. Under this Scheme, the Ministry bears 75% of the expenditure on training, up to a ceiling of Rs. 1 crore per State. The aim of the scheme is to upgrade the skill level of Indian emigrants at par with the overseas market requirement and to equip them with a basic knowledge about laws, language and culture of the destination country. In the current financial year the scheme is being expanded in partnership with the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium enterprises to cover a larger number of trades.

(c): The scheme was launched on a pilot basis in five states and the total funds to the tune of Rs. 4 crore were earmarked for the purpose during 2006-07. The state-wise details of funds released are as under:

Andhra Pradesh	- Rs. 50 lakh
Tamil Nadu	- Rs. 1 crore
Punjab	- Rs. 65.61 lakh
Kerala	- Rs. 1 crore
Karnataka	- Rs. 84.39 lakh

Government of India
Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3062
To be answered on 5th September, 2007

PRAVASI BHARTIYA DIWAS

3062. SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI:

Will the MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

प्रवासी भारतीय कार्य मंत्री

- (a) whether inspite of holding Pravasi Bharatiya Diwas every year and taking steps to attract NRIs, they have not participated in the India's development projects in the manner expected;
- (b) if so, the rain ceases thereafter;
- (c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken in such regard;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to hold mini Pravasi Bharatiya Diwas every year; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS
(SHRI VAYALAR RAVI)

(a)to(c): Pravasi Bharatiya Divas is held annually to provide a platform for the large overseas Indian community from across the world to interact with India and thereby strengthen their bonds with the country of their origin. The PBD also seeks to engage the Indian diaspora in India's development process. Engaging the diaspora is a long term process, the results of which are expected to be seen in due course. However, the PBD has contributed in increased interest of the diaspora in participating in India's socio-economic development.

(d)&(e): The Ministry is organizing the first overseas Pravasi Bharatiya Diwas in New York on September 23, 2007 with the theme "Engaging the diaspora : The way forward". This is being held as part of the 'India @ 60' celebrations being organized by the Government of India in partnership with the CII from 23-27 September, 2007 in New York. The focus of PBD-NY will be promotion of overseas Indian investments into India.

Government of India
Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3065
To be answered on 5th September, 2007

INDIANS DIED/MISSING IN OMAN

3065. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI:
SHRI HARIBHAU RATHOD:
SHRI PANNIAN RAVINDRAN:
SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA:

Will the MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
प्रवासी भारतीय कार्य मंत्री

- (a) whether the Government is aware that several Indians died/went missing in different countries including those died/misled in Oman due to recent cyclone in Oman;
- (b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years, country-wise and year-wise;
- (c) the reason for the deaths/missing;
- (d) whether the deceased have been identified;
- (e) if so, the details thereof;
- (f) whether compensation has been paid to the families of the deceased;
- (g) if so, the details thereof;
- (h) if not, the steps taken by the Government to pay compensation; and
- (i) measures taken to locate the missing persons?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS
(SHRI VAYALAR RAVI)

(a) to (i): The information is being obtained and will be placed on the Table of the House.

Government of India
Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3105
To be answered on 5th September, 2007

PARITY BETWEEN OCI AND NRI

3105. SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA:

Will the MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
प्रवासी भारतीय कार्य मंत्री

- (a) whether there is any proposal for parity between Overseas Citizens of Indian Origin and the Non-Resident Indians;
- (b) if so, the objections, if any, received from different official and other authentic quarters; and
- (c) the decision taken in the matter?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS
(SHRI VAYALAR RAVI)

(a)to(c): Yes, Sir. A proposal to notify benefits available to Overseas Citizens of India (OCIs) is under the consideration of the Government. The matter is being discussed with various Ministries/Departments of the Government of India.

Government of India
Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3115
To be answered on 5th September, 2007

MIGRATION OF SKILLED PROFESSIONALS FROM INDIA

3115. SHRI NAVEEN JINDAL:
SHRI S.AJAYA KUMAR:

Will the MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
प्रवासी भारतीय कार्य मंत्री

- (a) whether the Government is negotiating with the European countries to facilitate migration of skilled professionals from India over the next few years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the names of such countries;
- (c) whether India has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the International Organisation for Migration in this regard;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the time by which the negotiations are likely to be finalized?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS
(SHRI VAYALAR RAVI)

(a), (b) & (e) Yes sir. Government is in dialogue for signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Poland for facilitating Indian emigrants to Poland in sectors like construction, agriculture and road building. A draft MoU has been forwarded to the Polish Government for early negotiations. The first round of discussions was held during the visit of the Polish Labour Minister in June 2007 in New Delhi.

(c) & (d) Yes sir. A Memorandum of Understanding has been signed between India and International Organisation for Migration for implementation of the "Regional Dialogue and Programme on Facilitating Managed and Legal Migration Between Asia and the European Union (EU)." The MoU is aimed at capacity building for administering managed migration between India and EU member states.

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3128
To be answered on 5th September, 2007

ILL-TREATMENT OF INDIANS ABROAD

3128. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE:
(OIH) DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY:
SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK:

Will the MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
प्रवासी भारतीय कार्य मंत्री

- (a) whether cases of ill-treatment of Indians abroad have been reported with the concerned Protector of Emigrants (PoEs) during the last three years alongwith complaints lodged against the illegal recruiting agencies;
- (b) if so, details thereof and the action taken thereon;
- (c) the number of persons compensated during the last three years under the Pravasi Bima Scheme;
- (d) the instructions/guidelines issued to the State Government/police authorities to ban the unregistered illegal recruiting agencies;
- (e) whether the people of Indian Origin living in the Gulf countries are not safe as per the report of Community welfare Department of Indian Embassy in Riyadh;
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefore; and
- (g) the corrective measures taken for the security of the persons of Indian Origin?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS
(SHRI VAYALAR RAVI)

(a) & (b): Yes Sir. Cases of ill-treatment of workers abroad are reported from time to time, which are received in the Ministry from the Protector of Emigrants, Indian Missions abroad and from the emigrants also. In the cases of such emigrants recruited by the registered recruiting agents, action is taken like issuance of show cause notice, suspension/cancellation of the registration certificates. Cases regarding persons having been sent by unregistered agents are referred to state police authorities for taking necessary legal action. A statement on the number of complaints received in the Ministry against the registered as well as unregistered recruiting agents and the action taken thereon is furnished at Annexure-I.

Contd..2..

::2::

(c) As per available information, upto February, 2007, 249 claims had been settled.

(d) From time to time, the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs has been writing to the Chief Ministers of various labour exporting states like Punjab, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala etc to take stringent action against unregistered illegal recruiting agents. The Chief Secretaries of the State Governments were also apprised of the situation and were requested to monitor such complaints and take up with the state police authorities for due legal action. This is a continuous process and from time to time this is reiterated.

(f) to (g): The Community Welfare Wing of the Embassy of India in Saudi Arabia has not reported that people of Indian origin living in the Kingdom are not safe.

ANNEXURE-I

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) AND (b) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3128 FOR ANSWER ON 5.9.2007.

COMPLAINTS AGAINST REGISTERED RECRUITING AGENTS

Year	No. of complaints	Show Cause Notices issued	No. of Registration Certificates Suspended/cancelled	No. of complaints dropped/resolved	Cases pending which are being followed up
2005	41	41	24	17	Nil
2006	167	167	65	69	28*
2007 (so far)	76	76	1+ 5*(out of previous years' complaint)	17	58

COMPLAINTS AGAINST UNREGISTERED RECRUITING AGENTS

Year	No. of complaints	Prosecution Sanction issued	Cases referred to State Government /POE for action
2005	53	8	45
2006	78	21	57
2007 (so far)	33	6	27

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3146
To be answered on 5th September, 2007

LACK OF PROMPT ACTION BY INDIAN EMBASSIES ABROAD

3146. SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA:
(OIH)

Will the MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
प्रवासी भारतीय कार्य मंत्री

- (a) whether in the event of accident/untimely death of Indian workers working in various countries particularly in the gulf countries, the Indian Embassies situated in those countries are not taking prompt action to send back their dead bodies to India;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefore;
- (c) whether the Indian Embassies get appropriate support from the local administrations of the concerned countries in this regard;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) if not, the reasons therefore; and
- (f) the efforts made by the Government in this regard?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS
(SHRI VAYALAR RAVI)

(a) As per information received from the Indian Missions abroad including the Gulf countries like Kuwait, Qatar, Oman, Yemen and Saudi Arabia, the Missions take prompt action in sending dead bodies of Indian nationals after completion of all required local formalities. However, in case of

- (i) Oman, the process takes a few days time to complete and in most of the cases, the dead body is sent to India within a week or ten days.
- (ii) Saudi Arabia, there is delay in despatch of mortal remains of the deceased Indian nationals to India in some cases, varying from 4-6 weeks in cases of natural death and 16 weeks, or even more, if the death occurs due to unnatural reason, like road traffic accident, industrial mishap and murder.

::2::

(b) The main reasons for the delay is the time taken in completion of necessary formalities by the Saudi sponsors, non-completion of investigations, non-receipt of police and medical formalities, non-receipt of required documents from India etc.

(c) to (e):The local Governments have been cooperative and render all possible prompt assistance in completion of mandatory local formalities.

(f) The Missions in Saudi Arabia always pursue the matter with the sponsors and the concerned Saudi authorities at the highest levels for reduction of such delays by simplifying the procedures. This Ministry monitor it for faster despatch of dead bodies by keeping in touch with the Indian Missions abroad.

Government of India
Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4094
To be answered on 12th September, 2007

ATTACKS ON INDIANS ABROAD

4094. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE:
(OIH) SHRI ABU AYES MONDAL:
SHRI M. APPADURAI:
SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR:
SHRI SUNIL KHAN:
PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA:

Will the MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
प्रवासी भारतीय कार्य मंत्री

- (a) whether the Indians and their families including the staff of Missions/Posts living abroad have been attacked;
- (b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years alongwith causalities as a result thereof;
- (c) the number of people of Indian origin whose hoses have been looted and who have been asked to leave the country alongwith the number of people who have come back to India during the said period;
- (d) the steps taken to save the lives and properties of the people settled in other countries; and
- (e) the number of people of Indian origin who have come back to India form Afghanistan and other countries consequent upon outbreak of war alongwith the details of assistance and facilities provided to them so far?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS
(SHRI VAYALAR RAVI)

- (a) As

Government of India
Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4201
To be answered on 12th September, 2007

EXPLOITATION OF INDIAN WOMEN WORKING ABROAD

4201. SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI:
SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO:
SHRI SRICHAND KRIPLANI:
SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN:
SHRI KASHIRAM RANA:
DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY:
SHRIMATI KARUNA SHUKLA:
SHRIMATI RUPATAI DILIPRAONILANGAKAR PATIL:
SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK:

Will the MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

प्रवासी भारतीय कार्य मंत्री

- (a) whether the number of cases of exploitation of Indian women working abroad and atrocities on NRIs are constantly rising;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the number of such cases reported during the last three years and the current year, till date, country-wise;
- (c) whether any legal assistance has been provided to such women and other NRIs;
- (d) if so, the nature of such legal assistance and the number of women and NRIs who have been provided with such assistance during the last three years and the current year, till date, country-wise, year-wise;
- (e) the details of measures taken by the Government to check atrocities on NRIs and exploitation of Indian women working abroad; and
- (f) the manner in which the Government is likely to enforce these measures?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS
(SHRI VAYALAR RAVI)

- (a) As

Government of India
Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4202
To be answered on 12th September, 2007

SHORTAGE OF STAFF AT OFFICES OF PROTECTOR OR EMIGRANTS

4202. SHRI PANNIAN RAVINDRAN:

Will the MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
प्रवासी भारतीय कार्य मंत्री

- (a) whether there is shortage of staff in the offices of the Protector of Emigrants in the country especially at Thiruvananthapuram;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) the number of applications received on an average daily in the various Emigration Offices including Thiruvananthapuram during the last one year and the number of applications cleared daily; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to overcome the problem of shortage of staff?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS
(SHRI VAYALAR RAVI)

- (a) As