

- (iii) Statement of the broad procedure that the foreign employer shall follow to recruit Indian workers.
- (iv) The recruitment and terms of employment to be in conformity of the laws of both the Countries.
- (v) A Joint Working Group (JWG) to ensure implementation of the MoU and to meet regularly to find solutions to bilateral labour problems.

Complaints of Unscrupulous Agencies

3569. SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN :

SHRI TARINI KANTA ROY :

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

- (a) the number of complaints Government has received against unscrupulous agencies who recruited emigrant Indian workers during the last five years; and
- (b) the actions Government has taken against such companies?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI) : (a) and (b) During the last five years, the number of complaints against unregistered/unauthorized RAs are as under :-

Year	No. of Complaints	Prosecution Sanction issued	Cases referred to State Government/POE for action
2005	53	8	45
2006	78	21	57
2007	40	7	33
2008	93	56	37
2009 (upto June)	63	09	54

These complaints mainly pertain to cheating, overcharging, contractual violations by employers such as non-payment/delayed payment of salary, non-availability of medical facilities and proper food, unhygienic living conditions etc. Such harassment include withholding of passports and even physical abuse by the employers.

Any recruitment of Indian nationals for employment abroad without Registration Certificate under Section 10 of the Emigration Act, 1983 is an offence punishable under Section 24 of the Emigration Act, 1983. Since such agents are not registered with Protector General of Emigrants (PGE), Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs, the complaints are referred to concerned State Police authorities for investigation.

Complaints against registered recruiting agents are enquired into by the PGE and, if substantiated, the registration of the RA is cancelled.

Incidents of discrimination on Indians abroad

3570. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR : Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of incidents of discrimination, misbehaviour and attacks against Indians abroad;