

- (a) whether it is a fact that lots of Indian citizens are living abroad as an unorganized labour;
- (b) whether any study has been made regarding the number of people engaged;
- (c) whether they are not covered by any labour right; and
- (d) the action by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI) : (a) and (b) It is, estimated that there are about 4.5 million Indian workers in the Gulf countries, out of which some are working in the unorganised sector.

(c) and (d) The emigrants working in the households as domestic servants etc. are not covered by labour laws. The Government has made it compulsory that the employment contracts of all such workers be attested by the Indian missions prior to their emigration. The Government has also signed bilateral MOUs with Malaysia and all the GCC countries except Saudi Arabia for protection and welfare of our emigrant workers. The MOUs provide for protection of "all" categories of workers. Any issues arising in this regard are resolved through Joint Working Groups constituted under the MOU.

Victimisation of Indians in Britain

‡2373. SHRI PRABHAT JHA:
SHRI KAPTAN SINGH SOLANKI:

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

- (a) whether Government is aware of the fact that after Australia, Indians are becoming victim of racial discrimination in Britain also;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by Government so far to save Indians from victimisation of racial discrimination in Britain;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that Indians are being discriminated in the educational institutes in Britain;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and whether Government of India has approached British Government in this respect; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI) : (a) to (e) No, Sir. No report of Indians becoming victim of racial discrimination in Britain or Indian students being discriminated in educational institutes there has been received.

Racial discrimination in Britain and America

‡2374. SHRI PRABHAT JHA:
SHRI KAPTAN SINGH SOLANKI:

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

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether it is a fact that recently Indians are facing racial discrimination in the countries like Britain and America;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken so far by Government to protect Indians from racial discrimination in foreign countries?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI) : (a) to (c) No, Sir. No such report has been received.

Measures to check corruption

‡2375. SHRI GANGA CHARAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the measures being taken to check corruption in bureaucracy;

(b) whether any new legislation would be enacted to empower public to register a direct FIR against corrupt persons;

(c) if not, whether the present legislation is strong enough to tackle the corruption;

(d) whether Government is contemplating to repeal the existing law under which prior permission is required to take criminal action against senior officers for corruption charges;

(e) whether Government believes that funds routed through bureaucracy for the progress of the country are not reaching the public; and

(f) if so, the efforts being made to improve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN) : (a) Government is fully committed to implement its policy of "Zero Tolerance against Corruption" and is moving progressively to eradicate corruption from all spheres of life by improving transparency and accountability. Several steps have been taken to combat corruption and to improve the functioning of Government. These include-

(i) Issue of Whistle Blowers Resolution, 2004;

(ii) Enactment of Right to Information Act, 2005;

(iii) The pro-active involvement of Ministry/Department through Annual Action Plan on Vigilance as a preventive measure;

(iv) Issue of comprehensive instructions on transparency in tendering and contracting process by the CVC;

(v) Issue of instructions by the CVC asking the organizations to adopt Integrity Pact in major Government procurement activities; similar instructions have been issued by the Central Government on 16th June 2009 advising the State Governments to adopt Integrity Pact in major procurements;

(vi) India is amongst the countries who have signed the United Nations Convention against Corruption;

(vii) Introduction of e-Government and simplification of procedures and systems;

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.