

Assessment of the implementation of BSUP and IHSDP is made on basis of Quarterly and Monthly Progress Reports, National, Regional and State level reviews, field visits by officers from Central Government and JNNURM Monitoring Cell, including experts. Further, Third Party Inspection and Monitoring agencies undertake inspection of projects and send assessment reports covering quality and other aspects. A Mid-term appraisal study of the 11th Plan by the Planning Commission, which covers implementation of JNNURM among other things, reveals the following:

(i) JNNURM has been effective in renewing focus on the urban sector across the country; however the need to raise capacity and investment resources is substantial. It has been successful in catalyzing significant investments into the physical infrastructure of cities.

(ii) Much of this investment has been directed towards the provision of critical basic services that are essential to inclusiveness.

(iii) The Programme has created renewed focus on cities and allowed states and ULBs to raise their aspirations.

Indians languishing in jails

3758. SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN: Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many Indian citizens are languishing in jails in Gulf countries for want of valid documents;

(b) whether Government is aware of the existence of manpower agencies in the country duping gullible job aspirants;

(c) if so, the measures Government has taken to curb such activities; and

(d) the details of the steps taken to assist the Indian citizens imprisoned in the gulf countries?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) Indians reported to be in jails of Gulf countries are generally on account of visa violations, traffic violations, reported run away by the sponsors, besides those serving sentences awarded to them by courts. Some of them who do not have a valid passport and are required to be deported on completion of their terms of imprisonment are detained pending issue of passports by the nearest Indian Mission /Post, after verification of their national identity.

(b) and (c) Sometimes, complaints are received against the manpower recruitment agencies for overcharging, sending workers against wrong work categories, lower salaries than promised etc.

In such cases, action is taken against such erring registered agents under the Emigration Act, 1983. Whereas, in the cases of unregistered agents, cases are filed with the Police Authorities.

(d) Embassy officials visit the Indian citizens in jails, legal advice is provided, their families are informed, emergency certificates are provided after due process.

Referring of complaints to CVC

3759. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that under the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) Act, 2003, complaints falling within the ambit of the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 against certain categories of offices of the Central Government, Central Public Sector Enterprises etc., are to be mandatorily referred to CVC for investigation;

(b) whether Government has effected any change(s) in the said provision of extant law;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the reasons/rationale behind the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) The Central Vigilance Commission under Sections 8(1)(c) and 8(1)(d) of the CVC Act, 2003, is empowered to inquire or cause an inquiry to be conducted into offences alleged to have been committed under the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 either on a reference made by the Central Government, or on its own in respect of certain categories of officials specified in Section 8(2) of the CVC Act respectively.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Restructuring of UPSC

3760. SHRI DHIRAJ PRASAD SAHU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any plan to restructure the UPSC (Union Public Service Commission) of India;

(b) if so, the time schedule fixed therefor; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?