

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) to (c) No, Sir. The rules and regulations made to check exploitation of emigrants have largely proved effective. Despite the existing framework to enable legal migration and the efforts made by the Government to prevent irregular migration, complaints regarding fraudulent offers of overseas employment and cheating of job seekers are received by the Ministry from time to time. Such complaints include fraudulent advertisements for jobs abroad, recruitment on behalf of dubious employers and offers of exaggerated benefits to lure job seekers. These complaints are received against registered Recruiting Agents, unauthorized intermediaries as well as some Foreign Employers.

(d) The Government has taken several initiatives for preventing and combating illegal recruitment for overseas employment. These initiatives include *inter alia* the following:—

- (i) Whenever a complaint is received about cheating or exploitation of an emigrant action is initiated for suspension or cancellation of the registration certificate of the recruiting agent. If the recruiting agent indulges in forgery of documents he is prosecuted through the state police. Complaints against illegal agents are referred to the state police for prosecuting them. If there is a complaint against the employer about exploitation of the worker, proceedings for black listing of the employer are initiated.
- (ii) The Ministry has notified the new Emigration (Amendment) Rules 2009 on 9th July, 2009 revising the eligibility criteria of Recruiting Agents (RAs) and enhancing the validity period of the Registration Certificate and increasing the security amount and service charges.
- (iii) The Ministry has signed bilateral labour MoUs with all the GCC countries (except Saudi Arabia), Jordan and Malaysia to enhance bilateral cooperation in management of migration. Joint Working Groups have been constituted under these MoUs that meet regularly to resolve labour issues.
- (iv) A National Awareness-cum-Publicity Campaign was launched by the Ministry to create wider awareness among the general public and particularly among the potential migrants on the risks of illegal migration and safeguards against illegal practices by unauthorized intermediaries and fraudulent recruiting agencies.

#### **Indians working abroad**

4528. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry have the figure of Indian origin people living and working in different countries legally or without document; and

(b) the number of Indians that have been punished in the last one year and the number out of them who are inside the jails?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) Overseas employment of workers is regulated under the Emigration Act, 1983 and emigration rules made thereunder. It is believed that an estimated 5 millions can be classified as workers for whom emigration clearance is granted under the Emigration Act, 1983. They fall under category of unskilled, semi-skilled and skilled workers. The total number of workers who emigrated to ECR countries during the last three years is given in the Statement-I (See below).

(b) Information relating to Indians in the jails, as informed by the Indian missions is given in the Statement-II (See below). No data on conviction is available.

***Statement-I***

*Details of workers emigrated to ECR countries*

Year	No. of workers
2007	8.09 Lakh
2008	8.49 Lakh
2009	6.10 Lakh

***Statement-II***

*The country-wise details of migrant Indian workers in the jails, as informed by the Indian missions there, are as under*

Sl. No.	Name of Country	No. of migrant workers in Jail
1	2	3
1.	Afghanistan	5
2.	Albania	Nil
3.	Bahamas	Nil
4.	Bahrain	90
5.	Bangladesh	Nil
6.	Bhutan	Nil
7.	Brunei	4
8.	Cambodia	2
9.	Cayman Islands	Nil
10.	China	Nil
11.	Columbia	Nil
12.	Costa Rica	Nil
13.	Croatia	Nil

1	2	3
14.	Denmark	7
15.	Ecuador	5
16.	El Salvador	Nil
17.	Honduras	Nil
18.	Hong Kong	58
19.	Indonesia	Nil
20.	Iran	14
21.	Jamaica	Nil
22.	Jordan	18
23.	Kazakhstan	1
24.	KSA	1226
25.	Kuwait	246
26.	Latvia	Nil
27.	Lebanon	42
28.	Libya	1
29.	Malaysia	272
30.	Malta	17
31.	Moldova	Nil
32.	Nicaragua	Nil
33.	Oman	55
34.	Pakistan	Nil
35.	Panama	Nil
36.	Romania	Nil
37.	Slovenia	Nil
38.	South Korea	Nil
39.	Sri Lanka	Nil
40.	Sweden	3
41.	Syria	Nil
42.	Tunisia	Nil
43.	Turks and Caicos Islands	Nil
44.	UAE	950
45.	Uzbekistan	Nil