

Problems of Indians in Libya

3316. SHRIMATI GUNDU SUDHARANI: Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the problems being faced by some of the Indians in Libya due to non-payment or delayed payment of salaries and also non-fulfilment of contractual obligations by employers in Libya has come to the notice of the Ministry;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the efforts Embassy of India in Tripoli is making to protect the Indians working abroad; and

(d) the number of people rescued/helped by Embassy of India in Libya during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) to (d) The Embassy of India at Tripoli has reported that the following cases of non-payment or delayed payment of salaries to Indian workers and also non-fulfilment of contractual obligations by employers in Libya have come to notice and with their concerted efforts most of the workers have been repatriated:

- (i) M/s Citramegah Karya Gemilang: The company had engaged 1,237 Indian workers. There was delay in payment of salaries. Most of the workers have been repatriated and remaining 96 are expected to return in December, 2010.
- (ii) M/s Al Raed Company for Contracting and Real Estate Investment: There were about 224 Indian workers. Out of this, 184 have left Libya and tickets for 26 are under process.
- (iii) M/s Alekleel Construction Company: There were 119 Indian workers who wanted to return to India. All of them have returned.
- (iv) M/s Elmahawar Construction and Real Estate: There were 13 Indian workers who had approached the Mission for arranging their repatriation. All of them have been repatriated.
- (v) M/s Emar Al Beida : 12 Indian workers requested the Mission for arranging their repatriation and this was done.
- (vi) M/s Al Haram Engineering Company: 15 Indian workers engaged by the company have been repatriated in two phases.
- (vii) M/s Al Sahgal Engineering Construction Company: In this company 10 Indian workers were deserted by the employer and the Mission had arranged their repatriation.

In addition to the above, also there were cases involving smaller number of workers which came to the notice of Mission and the Mission arranged/coordinated their repatriation. The Government of India had taken up the matter with the Libyan authorities to seek their co-operation and impress upon them the urgency of settling workers claims and repatriating them. The recruiting agents in India who had sent these workers were directed to make arrangements for their return.

Agents sending students abroad

3317. SHRI N. BALAGANGA: Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any law regulating the agents who send students and others to foreign countries for studies or for employment;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Government is planning to have a law regulating the agents; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) and (b) Emigration Act, 1983 and the Rules made thereunder regulates Recruiting Agents for conducting the business of recruitment for overseas employment only.

(c) and (d) Does not arise.

Demand of labourers from India

3318. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether some foreign countries have shown interest in calling labourers from India for their manufacturing goods industry;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken by Government to protect the interest and safety to this work force abroad?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) and (b) Indian workers emigrate every year for Overseas employment in different sectors including manufacturing industry. During 2009 about 6.10 Lakh Indian workers emigrated under the Emigration Act, 1983. Out of this, about 90% of the emigration takes place to the Gulf Countries. However, no Government of any foreign country has specifically made a request for calling labourers from India for working in their manufacturing goods industry.

(c) The Government has taken several initiatives for protection and welfare of Overseas Indian Workers which include: