

project. The stakeholders, such as Indian Missions including Indian Mission in UAE and recruiting agents have been consulted in the matter. The remedial steps taken in this regard include simplification of processes, namely Foreign Employer (FE) registration process; process for direct recruitment and manual attestation required in respect of domestic sector and unskilled workers.

Swarna Pravas Yojana

1371. DR. T.N. SEEMA: Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Swarna Pravas Yojana implemented by Government to impart skill development for overseas employment to the Indian youth is yet to be implemented;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the number of persons proposed by Government for skill development for overseas under that scheme;
- (c) the details of fund allocation made by Government for this purpose; and
- (d) the corrective measures and the action taken by Government for implementation of the scheme expeditiously and successfully?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (GENERAL (RETD.) V.K. SINGH): (a) and (b) The operational modalities for implementation of Swarna Pravas Yojana, on skill development, are in the process of being formalised. The objective of the Scheme is to enhance employability of Indian youth abroad by providing them training and certification which will be internationally recognised. The number of persons proposed to be trained for overseas employment during the Twelfth Five Year Plan period is 208000 Indian youth.

(c) The budget allocation for the Twelfth Five Year Plan period is ₹ 137.00 crore. The Budget Estimate (BE) for the year 2015-16 is ₹ 20 .00 crore.

(d) In order to implement the scheme expeditiously and successfully a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), to be signed with Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship (MSDE), is being finalized. The objective of the MoU is to implement the scheme in collaboration with Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY) being implemented by MSDE.

Indians on hunger strike in Florida Jail

1372. SHRI A.K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether 22 Indians are on hunger strike in a Florida jail in USA, if so, the details thereof; and