

**Ministry of Home Affairs:**

National Emergency Response System (NERS) with total project cost of ₹ 321.69 crore.

III. In addition, the proposal of East Delhi Municipal Corporation (EDMC) for IP based CCTV in EDMC primary schools costing ₹ 5.50 crore is in the pipeline.

**Indians trapped in Gulf countries**

†\*129. SHRIMATI KANAK LATA SINGH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry is aware that Indian workers from several States including Poorvanchal of Uttar Pradesh, are trapped in the Gulf and other countries;

(b) the details of action taken to bring them back during the last three years;

(c) whether Indian workers in the Gulf countries do not get minimum salary, medical and insurance facilities; and

(d) whether the Ministry is considering to enter into an agreement with the Gulf countries to solve the problems regarding the medical, insurance, salary and bring them back to the country?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ):

(a) Yes, Sir. Indian Missions/Posts in four Gulf countries have reported that some Indian workers who had emigrated through illegal channels are stranded. These countries are Bahrain, Oman, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and United Arab Emirates (UAE). State-wise data of such stranded emigrants from India is not maintained.

(b) On receipt of reports of Indian emigrants in distress, our Mission/Posts in that country intervene with the concerned Government and the foreign employer/ sponsor to resolve outstanding disputes and help repatriate Indian workers.

The Government of India has set up Indian Community Welfare Fund (ICWF) in all the Indian Missions/Consulates abroad to meet contingency expenditure incurred by them for carrying out various welfare activities for overseas Indian citizens who are in distress. The objectives of the ICWF include:

(i) Boarding and lodging for distressed Overseas Indians in need;

(ii) Extending emergency medical care to the Overseas Indians in need;

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† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (iii) Providing air passage to stranded Overseas Indians in need;
- (iv) Providing initial legal assistance to the Overseas Indians in deserving cases;
- (v) Expenditure on incidentals and for airlifting the mortal remains to India or local cremation/burial of the deceased Overseas Indians in such cases where the sponsor is unable or unwilling to do so as per the contract and the family is unable to meet the cost;
- (vi) Providing the payment of penalties in respect of Indian nationals for illegal stay in the host country where *prima facie* the worker is not at fault;
- (vii) Providing the payment of small fines/penalties for the release of Indian nationals in jails/detention centres.

(c) Those Indian emigrants who take up overseas employment after obtaining Emigration Clearance are assured of minimum referral wages as per written contract signed between the Foreign Employer and the emigrant as well as the Recruiting Agent. Mandatory Insurance and medical cover is extended to such emigrants through Pravasi Bhartiya Bima Yojana (PBBY).

(d) Government of India has signed MoUs with 6 Gulf countries, Jordan and Malaysia as per details given in the Statement (*See* below). The broad principles covered in the MoUs include:

- (i) Declaration of mutual intent to enhance employment opportunities and bilateral cooperation in protection and welfare of workers.
- (ii) The host country to take measures for protection and welfare of the workers in organized sector.
- (iii) Statement of the broad procedure that the foreign employer shall follow to recruit Indian workers.
- (iv) The recruitment and terms of employment to be in conformity with the laws of both the countries.
- (v) Constitution of Joint Working Groups which would meet regularly to find solutions to bilateral labour problems.

These MoUs are renewed/signed afresh, from time to time, during which process any requisite modifications are duly considered for inclusion.

**Statement**

*List of countries with whom the Government of India has signed bilateral Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) regarding matters concerning overseas employment of ECR category workers*

Sl. No.	Country	Date
1.	UAE	December, 2006 and November, 2007
2.	Qatar	April, 2007
3.	Kuwait	April, 2007
4.	Oman	November, 2008
5.	Malaysia	January, 2009
6.	Bahrain	June, 2009
7.	Kingdom of Saudi Arabia:- Domestic Sector Workers General Category Worker	January, 2014 April, 2016
8.	Jordan	1980

**Model Building Bye Laws**

\*130. SHRI A. U. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Model Building Bye Laws have been introduced, if so, the details thereof, if not the reasons therefor;

(b) whether incentives would be given to encourage greater compliance by individuals, if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether local capacity building and awareness creation among citizens has been/would be undertaken, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU):  
(a) Yes, Sir. The Model Building Bye Laws, 2016 (MBBL-2016) have been released on 18th March, 2016. These are in the form of comprehensive guidelines for States/UTs to incorporate into their respective building bye laws. These cover various technical, procedural and special aspects in the sphere of construction of buildings. The features of the MBBL-2016 include, but are not limited to, aspects of enhancing ease of doing business regarding construction permits, integration of environmental concerns,