

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO (Goa): Sir, I associate myself with this issue.

Need to open Consulate of UAE at KOCHI

SHRI K. CHANDRAN PILLAI (Kerala): Mr. Chairman, Sir, lakhs of Keralites are working in various countries in the Gulf region, particularly in UAE. This region is still a potential market for job seekers, which to a certain extent, is a boon for the ever-swelling unemployment problem in Kerala with soaring unemployment rate, which is well above the national average. Moreover, the State's economy is much dependent on the remittance made by NRIs.

Since the Consulate of UAE is located at Mumbai and Delhi, those Keralites employed in UAE and the ones seeking jobs as well as the business community in the State are faced with serious hardships for getting visa and other related documents. Hence it will be of great help to these sections if a Consulate of UAE is opened at Cochin.

Therefore, I urge upon the Central Government to take up the matter with the UAE authorities so that a Consulate of UAE can be opened at Cochin.

SHRI M.J. VARKEY MATTATHIL (Kerala): Sir, I associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

Need for initiating concrete measures for adequately safeguarding the democratic rights of the workers

SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA (West Bengal): Sir, this is being widely reported by a cross-section of workers that some unscrupulous employers are hiring services of so-called security service organisations in different States, particularly U.P., Punjab, Haryana, Gujarat, etc. so as to throttle the democratic movement of trade unions engaged in upholding their just demands. These private security organisations are owned and run mostly by retired high officials of Police, be they from the IPS or other cadres. They are using their influence and connections with police stations and harassing trade union members on some or the other fabricated charge. Such intimidatory tactics are being used at will by various