

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS
RAJYA SABHA
QUESTION NO 18.11.2010
ANSWERED ON
MIGRANT WORKERS FROM ORISSA .

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Shri Rama Chandra Khuntia

Will the Minister of COALCOALCOALCOALOVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state :-

- (a) whether Government is aware of the fact that hundred of workers from Orissa are being harassed and punished by the contractors in Sudan;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the number of workers that have already returned to Orissa; and
- (c) whether Government has the statistic of the number of migrant workers who are working in Sudan from Orissa?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS

(SHRI VAYALAR RAVI)

(a) & (b): Embassy of India, Khartoum has reported that on 20th October, 2010 they came to know about harassment of Indian workers who were hired by M/s Progressive Construction Ltd., Hyderabad sub-contractors for M/s Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd. who are doing the Kosti Power Project in Kosti, Sudan. Out of these workers from Orissa, 28 workers have agreed to break their strike and resume work with M/s Progressive Construction Ltd. As on 16-11-2010, of the remaining 200 workers, 127 workers have already left for India and for remaining 73 workers Exit Visas are being arranged by the company for early repatriation.

(c): No such data is available as registration by Indian nationals at Indian Embassy is voluntary. Embassy's website makes on-line registration possible but very few have registered so far.