

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No-2143
ANSWERED ON- 21/12/2023

ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION FROM INDIA

2143. SHRI DEEPENDER SINGH HOODA

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :-

- (a) whether it is a fact that a number of people are migrating to other countries illegally from India;
- (b) the reasons prompting such illegal immigration and the number of illegal immigrants each year since 2019, including 2023;
- (c) India's ranking in terms of illegal immigration as compared to other countries along with the major destination countries;
- (d) the State-wise number of illegal immigrants who have been caught/deported living illegally in other countries in the last 5 years; and
- (e) the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

[SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN]

(a & b) It has been noticed that several unscrupulous agents/travel agencies are illegally involved in the business of manpower recruitment for overseas employment. Information about illegal agents is uploaded and updated on regular basis on the e-Migrate Portal. As on 30 October 2023, 2925 illegal agents have been notified through e-Migrate portal. Details of State-wise number of such illegal agents notified till date are enclosed as **Annexure A**.

(c to e) Many foreign countries do not provide information on illegal stay in their countries, except when they are under orders of deportation and travel document/nationality verification is required. As such, our Missions and Posts do not have any reliable data on the number of Indians staying or working illegally in foreign countries. The procedure followed for deportation of foreign nationals also varies from country to country. Some countries do not arrest the deportee instead keep them in detention/deportation centers until deportation. Moreover, the information about arrest/detention and deportation is not shared with Indian Missions/Posts and the deportation is done directly by the host Government, if the deportee has valid travel document. Our Missions/Posts are contacted by the host Governments only in such cases where the nationality verification and issuance of Emergency Certificate (EC) to the deportee is

required. Since all foreign countries do not share details of all Indian deportees, the exact number of Indians deported from foreign countries is not available with the Ministry of External Affairs.

As part of the Government's continuous efforts to raise awareness on safe & legal migration, a commemorative postal stamp 'Surakshit Jaaye, Prashikshit Jaaye' was released by Hon'ble PM during the 17th Pravasi Bhartiya Diwas (PBD) Convention on 9th January 2023 at Indore. Further, Ministry's outreach activities have regularly been covered by regional language print media. The Ministry as well as Indian Missions/Posts abroad regularly issue advisories on perils of illegal migration to make emigrating youth aware of the false job offers.

To raise awareness among prospective workers about legal requirements and working and living conditions in the destination country, the Ministry organises Pre-Departure Orientation & Training (PDOT) so as to ensure that Indian migrant workers undertake safe migration and are aware of their rights and have access to GoI welfare schemes. PDOT is a one-day training programme on soft skills imparted by the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) in collaboration with National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC), State Governments and other stake holders. As on 30 November 2023, over 1,35,000 prospective migrant workers have benefited from the program in physical and online formats.

STATE-WISE COUNT OF ILLEGAL AGENTS
(as per data available till 30 October 2023)

Sl. No.	State	Count
1	Delhi	292
2	Punjab	190
3	Tamil Nadu	360
4	Maharashtra	309
5	Uttar Pradesh	400
6	Andhra Pradesh	471
7	Kerala	189
8	Telangana	113
9	Haryana	35
10	Gujrat	56
11	West Bengal	127
12	Karnataka	80
13	Rajasthan	61
14	Bihar	54
15	Madhya Pradesh	16
16	Puducherry	6
17	Uttarakhand	13
18	Goa	13
19	Himachal Pradesh	10
20	Jammu and Kashmir	11
21	Chandigarh	31
22	Odisha	11
23	Chhattisgarh	4
24	Assam	60
25	Jharkhand	5
26	Tripura	7
27	Nagaland	1
Total		2925
