

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP
RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. *191
ANSWERED ON 05.08.2026

**GLOBAL WORKFORCE MOBILITY AND STANDARDIZATION OF VOCATIONAL
CERTIFICATION**

*191 DR. PARMAR JASHVANTSINH SALAMSINH:

Will the Minister of SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP be pleased to state:

- (a) the initiatives undertaken to cultivate a globally benchmarked and certified workforce to address international demand via legal and structured pathways;
- (b) the methodology through which specific skill deficits in destination nations are identified and synchronised with domestic vocational training curricula;
- (c) whether framework arrangements for mutual recognition and workforce mobility partnerships have been successfully operationalised with participating countries;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the strategic measures implemented to facilitate pre-departure orientation and specialised foreign-language instruction for candidates pursuing overseas professional opportunities?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

(SHRI JAYANT CHAUDHARY)

(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) TO (e) OF RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. *191 ANSWERED ON 05.08.2026 REGARDING 'GLOBAL WORKFORCE MOBILITY AND STANDARDIZATION OF VOCATIONAL CERTIFICATION' ASKED BY DR. PARMAR JASHVANTSINH SALAMSINH

(a) to (d): The Government has established a robust institutional framework to promote safe and legal migration while ensuring welfare and safety and preventing exploitation of Indians abroad, including Indian workers. MoUs/ Agreements such as Migration and Mobility Partnership Agreements (MMPAs), Labour Mobility Agreements (LMAs) and Labour Welfare Agreements signed with the partner countries seek to establish robust frameworks for legal migration, for the welfare and protection of migrant workers and for preventing irregular migration.

The Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE), through the National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC), has undertaken several initiatives to facilitate overseas employment opportunities for Indian workers through structured, safe and legal mobility pathways. The methodology for identifying skill requirements and workforce demand is developed through consultations and mutually agreed discussions with the respective partner countries.

MSDE currently has eight active Government-to-Government (G2G) Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) with Australia, France, Denmark, Germany, Japan, Qatar, Singapore and United Arab Emirates (UAE) in the field of skill development and vocational education training. These MoUs support MSDE's efforts to align Indian skilling certifications with international standards by fostering technical engagement through bilateral agreements for capacity building of an internationally benchmarked quality skills ecosystem, facilitate labour mobility and establishment of the Skill India International Network. MSDE has signed an MoU with the World Economic Forum (WEF), and has launched the India Skills Accelerator.

Currently, 11 of the 23 Mobility and Migration Partnership Agreements (MMPAs)/Labour Mobility Agreements (LMAs) signed by the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA)—with Australia, Israel, Mauritius, Denmark, Italy, Germany, the UK, Japan, EU, Finland and Austria—include provisions on skill development.

Additionally, Labour and Manpower Cooperation Agreements are also in place with the Gulf Cooperation Countries (GCC), like Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, UAE and Jordan. MSDE has signed five Implementation protocols with Israel under the MEA-Israel LMA for Construction Sector, Home-Based Caregivers Sector, Commerce & Services Sector, Restaurant Sector and Manufacturing Sector.

MSDE has also operationalised G2G mobility arrangements and Memoranda of Cooperation (MoC) / MoU with partner countries, including Japan, Israel and Mauritius, to facilitate the recruitment and deployment of skilled Indian workers. These arrangements provide transparent recruitment mechanisms, pre-departure orientation, domain-specific training, culture, workplace etiquette and language training, wherever required.

Japan: MSDE signed a MoC on the Technical Intern Training Program (TITP) with the Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare of Japan on 17th October 2017 to strengthen bilateral cooperation in skill development. The programme enables Indian candidates to undergo structured technical internship training in Japan and facilitates transfer of technical skills, technologies and workplace practices.

The Government of India and the Government of Japan signed the MoC on Specified Skilled Workers (SSW) under the aegis of the MEA on 21 January 2021. MSDE, acts as the focal point for coordination of skill and Japanese language proficiency examinations for SSW, in consultation with relevant stakeholders.

Israel: MSDE and the Population and Immigration Authority Bureau (PIBA), Government of Israel, have operationalised G2G arrangements under Protocol A (Construction Sector) and Protocol B (Home-Based Caregiver Sector). These arrangements provide a transparent and merit-based recruitment process for deployment of qualified and skilled Indian workers. The framework includes mobilisation, skill assessment, employer-driven selection, pre-departure orientation and deployment through legal and regulated channels.

Mauritius: The Government of India and the Government of the Republic of Mauritius have signed an MoU on Employment of Workers from India to establish a structured, transparent and legal framework for recruitment, employment and repatriation of qualified Indian workers. The arrangement is operationalised through a G2G mechanism, with NSDC serving as the nodal agency on behalf of the Government of India and working in coordination with the Economic Development Board (EDB), Mauritius. The framework supports workforce mobility across multiple sectors based on labour market requirements in Mauritius.

The year-wise details of the candidates trained and deployed under the G2G mobility arrangements and MoC/ MoU with Israel, Japan and Mauritius are placed at **Annexure-I**.

(e) Government of India started Pre-Departure Orientation Training (PDOT) programmes in 2018, to enhance soft skills of prospective Indian migrant workers, in terms of culture, language, tradition and local rules and regulations of the destination country, and to sensitize migrant workers about pathways to safe and legal migration and various government programmes for their welfare and protection. Since inception of the PDOT programme, a total of 2,48,818 emigrant workers have been imparted training till 31 March 2026.

Under the overseas mobility arrangements facilitated by MSDE through NSDC, candidates undergo pre-departure preparation programmes that include orientation on workplace practices, cultural sensitisation, employment conditions, labour rights, safety norms and living conditions in the destination country. It also familiarizes them with government welfare initiatives designed to safeguard their rights and well-being, such as the Pravasi Bharatiya Bima Yojana (PBBY), Indian Community Welfare Fund (ICWF), eMigrate Portal, MADAD Portal, Pravasi Bharatiya Sahayata Kendras (PBSKs), and 24/7 helplines at Indian embassies and consulates.

Further, Skill India International Centres (SIICs) have also been established to further the Government's vision of positioning India as the skill capital of the world. SIICs provide destination-specific pre-departure training, including foreign language proficiency, cultural orientation, professional readiness, and training and certification aligned to the requirements of overseas employers and destination countries. At present, seven SIICs are operational at SDI Bhubaneswar, NSTI Hyderabad, NSTI Kanpur, NSTI Ludhiana, NSTI Bengaluru, IIE Guwahati and ITI Karaundhi, Varanasi

ANNEXURE I

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY OF PART (a) to (d) OF RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. *191 ANSWERED ON 05.08.2026 REGARDING “GLOBAL WORKFORCE MOBILITY AND STANDARDIZATION OF VOCATIONAL CERTIFICATION” ASKED BY DR. PARMAR JASHVANTSINH SALAMSINH

Year-wise details of the number of candidates trained and deployed under workforce mobility arrangements with Japan, Mauritius and Israel are as under:

Isarel	
India-Israel G2G Arrangement (Protocol A - Construction & Protocol B - Home-Based Caregiver)	
Financial Year	No. of Candidates
2024-25	6694
2025-26	99
2026-27	98
Total	6891

Japan	
India-Japan Technical Intern Training Program (TITP) / Specified Skilled Worker (SSW) pathway under MoC signed on 17.10.2017	
Financial Year	No. of Candidates
2018-19	31
2019-20	165
2020-21	23
2021-22	54
2022-23	415
2023-24	687
2024-25	695
2025-26	815
2026-27	212
Grand Total	3097

Mauritius	
India-Mauritius MoU on Employment of Workers from India	
Financial Year	No. of Candidates
2026-27	28
Grand Total	28
