

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2544**

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 02ND AUGUST, 2022/SRAVANA 11, 1944 (SAKA)

HUMAN TRAFFICKING

2544. ADV. ADOOR PRAKASH:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that human trafficking to Gulf countries is increasing and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Government has noted the recent incidents of human trafficking to Kuwait in which many women were trapped by offering overseas placement and if so, the details thereof along with the action taken thereon; and

(c) the measures taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to prevent such incidents?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRI AJAY KUMAR MISHRA)**

(a) to (c): The National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) compiles crime statistics reported to it by the States and Union Territories (UTs) and publishes the same in its annual publication 'Crime in India'. The latest published report is of the year 2020. Specific information is not available with NCRB.

However, some Indian Missions in Gulf countries had received complaints in this regard. The Mission in Bahrain came across 4 cases of human trafficking in the year 2021 and 9 cases in 2022 (till June). The Indian

Mission in Kuwait has reported registration of 2390 and 1637 complaints by domestic workers, in the year 2021 and 2022 (till June) respectively, who had entered into Kuwait without proper documents.

The Government of India has undertaken several measures for protection of emigrant workers-

(i) The Government of India has signed Memorandum of Understanding (MoUs) with various countries especially where there are large number of Indian workers.

(ii) Indian Community Welfare Fund (ICWF) has been set up in all Indian Missions/Posts abroad to meet contingency expenditure incurred by them for carrying out various welfare activities for overseas Indian citizens in distress.

(iii) The Ministry of External Affairs has set up a 24/7 Helpline 'Pravasi Bharatiya Sahayata Kendra (PBSK)' in New Delhi, for providing information and guidance on all matters and problems pertaining to overseas employment to Indian nationals.

(iv) The Government of India has also set up 'MADAD' Portal for online lodging of grievances of the emigrants and to track their redressal.

(v) Indian Missions/Posts abroad conduct Open Houses on regular basis to provide direct access to workers to register their grievances and seek redressal of the same. Missions/Posts abroad have also established 24/7

Helplines and Toll Free Helplines. They have also launched Mobile Applications to enable Indian workers in Gulf countries to contact respective Indian Missions/Posts abroad when in distress or in emergency situations.

(vi) Since August, 2016, Emigration Clearance of all female workers having ECR passports, for overseas employment in 18 ECR countries have been made mandatory through State-run recruiting agencies.

(vii) Every Foreign Employer desirous of directly recruiting a female ECR worker is required to deposit a Bank Guarantee equivalent to US \$2500 in the respective Indian Mission.

(viii) Embassy attestation has been made mandatory in respect of direct recruitment of all ECR passport holder women workers in respect of all ECR countries.

(ix) With effect from June 2015, registration of Foreign Employers in the e-migrate system has been made mandatory.
