

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA

STARRED Q.NO. 265

ANSWERED ON 13.12.2024

MONITORING OF AGENCIES RECRUITING INDIANS ABROAD

***265. SHRI MAGUNTA SREENIVASULU REDDY**

SHRI G M HARISH BALAYOGI

Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of manpower consultancy/recruitment agencies presently registered and functioning across the country, State-wise;

(b) the steps/initiatives undertaken by the Government during the last five years to regulate manpower consultancy/recruitment agencies in the country, State/UT-wise especially those in Andhra Pradesh;

(c) whether the Government monitors/regulates the various employment packages offered by these agencies for recruitment of Indian people especially for blue-collar jobs abroad, if so, details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether certain Emigration Check Required (ECR) countries provide explicit guidelines requiring employers to cover employees' visa sponsorship,

medical insurance, inbound flight tickets and similar benefits, if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the measures taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to prevent manpower consultancy or recruitment agencies from exploiting the above mentioned employee benefits and profiting from both employers and employees?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

(DR. SUBRAMANYAM JAISHANKAR)

(a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to parts (a) to (e) in respect of Lok Sabha Starred Question No. *265 for reply on 13.12.2024 regarding “Monitoring Of Agencies Recruiting Indians Abroad.”

(a to e) As per the available data on eMigrate portal, there are 2,164 registered Recruiting Agents (RAs) across the country till date. The state-wise details are at Annexure.

The Ministry takes appropriate measures and issues guidelines from time to time to regulate the registered RAs in the country including those in Andhra Pradesh. As per Section 10 of the Emigration Act, 1983, no person/agency can function as Recruiting Agent (RA) without a valid Registration Certificate (RC) issued by the Registering Authority i.e. Protector General of Emigrants (PGE). The process of registration of RA is done through a web-based application i.e. eMigrate portal which brings all the stakeholders, including the RAs, Foreign Employers (FEs) and the prospective emigrants on a common platform. Whenever, any complaint against a registered RA is received, a Show Cause Notice (SCN) is issued to the concerned RA, under Section 14 of the Emigration Act, 1983, directing them to resolve the complaint. In case, the RA fails to respond to the SCN or reply is not found to be satisfactory, their RC can be cancelled or suspended for 30 days as per Section 14(2) of the Emigration Act, 1983. The order of suspension can be revoked by the Competent Authority only after consultation with all the

stakeholders and after ensuring that the complaint has been fully resolved to the satisfaction of the complainant. Ministry also publishes a list of unregistered RAs on the eMigrate portal. Advisories/alerts on fraudulent/illegal recruiting agencies are also hosted on this portal. Ministry also takes prompt action against illegal migration through unregistered/illegal RAs with the support of concerned State Governments.

Certain Emigration Check Required (ECR) countries such as Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Oman, Malaysia, United Arab Emirates, Kuwait, Jordan, Bahrain, Lebanon, and Indonesia issue guidelines and relevant information in accordance with their local labour laws to cover visa sponsorship, medical insurance, flight tickets and similar other benefits by the employer of these countries to the foreign employees. This is ordinarily governed by the contract between the employer and the employee.

Government accords utmost priority to the welfare of the prospective emigrants. As per the Emigration Rules 1983 (as amended from time to time), no RA shall collect from the prospective emigrant the service charges more than the prescribed amount, in respect of services rendered by it to that emigrant and the RA shall issue a receipt to the emigrant for the amount collected by it in this regard. To prevent exploitation of Indian workers by Foreign Employers (FEs), the Government has fixed the Minimum Referral Wages (MRW) to regulate the wages of Indian migrant workers seeking

employment in the ECR countries. Ministry enforces the MRW through the offices of Protector of Emigrants (POEs). POEs while granting the mandatory Emigration Clearance (EC), in accordance with Section 22 of the Emigration Act 1983, read with Rule 15 of Emigration Rules, checks wage offered by the Foreign Employers (FEs) and deny the EC if the wage so offered is below the prescribed MRW.

ANNEXURE

**State-wise details of registered Recruiting Agents (RAs) on eMigrate portal
till 08 December 2024.**

Sr. No.	State	No. of active RAs
1.	ANDHRA PRADESH	35
2.	ASSAM	2
3.	BIHAR	26
4.	CHHATTISGARH	1
5.	CHANDIGARH	29
6.	DELHI	327
7.	GOA	12
8.	GUJARAT	19
9.	HIMACHAL PRADESH	1
10.	HARYANA	26
11.	JHARKHAND	7
12.	JAMMU & KASHMIR	5
13.	KARNATAKA	70
14.	KERALA	308
15.	MAHARASHTRA	637
16.	MADHYA PRADESH	1
17.	MIZORAM	2
18.	ODISHA	6
19.	PUNJAB	155
20.	PUDUCHERRY	1
21.	RAJASTHAN	76
22.	TELANGANA	104
23.	TAMIL NADU	180
24.	UTTARAKHAND	7
25.	UTTAR PRADESH	90
26.	WEST BENGAL	37
	TOTAL	2,164
