

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2460

ANSWERED ON 13/02/2026

CHECK ON ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION RACKETS

†2460. DR ANAND KUMAR

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

(a) whether the Government is aware of illegal emigration rackets operating in the country which fraudulently send Indian citizens abroad causing them financial losses and also damage the country's international image;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government so far to check such rackets and take strict action against them;

(c) the details of the progress made on the action taken and the results achieved so far in this regard; and

(d) the details of additional measures proposed by the Government to effectively check illegal emigration rackets in future?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

(SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH)

(a to d) Government has been made aware of instances where dubious entities involved in fake recruitment job offers have lured Indian nationals mostly through social media channels for overseas employment to various countries. Ministry comes to know about such fraudulent activities of illegallunscrupulous recruitment agents in the country as and when a complaint is filed by the aggrieved emigrants or their relatives/friends/family members who have been cheated, as these Indian nationals proceed abroad on their own volition through fraudulent/unscrupulous recruitment agents and through illegal channels.

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). As and when complaints of illegal migration/human trafficking are received, such matters are referred to the State police for investigation and prosecution under the

relevant legal provisions of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) and other legislations in place.

Ministry issues advisories through eMigrate portal, social media handles, and other modes of publicity about the perils of fake job rackets and ways to prevent the same. Till January 2026, a list of 3,505 unregistered agents, against whom grievances have been received, has been published on the eMigrate portal to caution the prospective emigrants. The awareness campaign on safe and legal migration through eMigrate portal has been carried out by the Ministry across the country by conducting workshops, trainings, information sessions, digital campaigns for media groups, police officials and law enforcement agencies, local administration, aspiring recruiting agents, entrepreneurs and general public. During these sessions awareness on emigration regulations, schemes beneficial for emigrants like Pravasi Bharatiya Bima Yojana (PBBY), Pre-Departure Orientation Training (PDOT), eMigrate portal and various advisories issued by Indian Embassies are brought to the notice of all stakeholders.

The Protector General of Emigrants (PGE) in the Ministry of External Affairs through 16 Protector of Emigrants (PoEs) across India, regularly coordinates with the State Governments regarding issues of illegal recruiting agencies and the ways to address challenges related to enforcement of emigration rules and regulations. The Ministry regularly organises such outreach programs to sensitise various stakeholders about the benefits of safe and legal migration and suggests ways to prevent illegal migration through fake/unregistered recruitment agencies. In addition to the regular information sharing on unregistered recruiting agencies, regular meetings with the State level Nodal Officer are held. Further, workshops & training sessions are held by the Ministry for the law enforcement agencies of the State Governments in which information on the Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) of the Ministry on handling complaints relating to overseas employment, is shared with the participants.
