

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO - 2236

ANSWERED ON - 31/07/2026

REGULATION OF IMMIGRATION AGENTS

2236. SHRI PUTTA MAHESH KUMAR
SHRI MAGUNTA SREENIVASULU REDDY

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the growing incidents of fake immigration agents and fraudulent overseas job/visa consultants cheating Indian citizens across the country, including Andhra Pradesh, if so, the details thereof;**
- (b) the details of the number of complaints received and cases registered against such agents, State/UT-wise, during the last three years, year-wise;**
- (c) the steps taken to identify, blacklist and prosecute unauthorised agents, including action taken under the Emigration Act and coordination with State Police and other agencies; and**
- (d) whether the Government has undertaken any steps to strengthen public awareness, grievance redressal and prevention mechanisms for protecting emigrant workers, if so, the details thereof?**

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

(SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH)

(a to d) Recruitment Agencies (RA) in India for engaging in the recruitment business for overseas employment are regulated as per the provisions under The Emigration Act, 1983 and Rules thereunder. As per Section 10 of the Emigration Act, 1983, no person or agency can function as RA without a valid Registration Certificate (RC) issued by the Registering Authority, i.e., Protector General of Emigrants (PGE). Mandatory registration of RA is aimed at curbing fraud and exploitation of prospective Indian emigrants seeking overseas employment.

The RC holders are required to comply with the provisions under the Emigration Act, 1983, and the terms and conditions of Registration Certificate prescribed in Section 10 of The Emigration Rules, 1983, which are focussed on safeguarding the interests of emigrant workers. The Emigration Act/Rules, 1983 also provide for punitive actions against the registered RAs for violation of the provisions thereunder.

Issuance of RC is done through eMigrate Portal (<https://emigrate.gov.in>) only which is maintained by the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA). List of

all the registered RAs in India is publicly available on the eMigrate portal. List of unregistered agents against whom complaints were received, has also been published on the eMigrate portal to caution the prospective emigrants. As on date a total of 3,505 such unregistered agents have been notified on the eMigrate portal.

Instances of unauthorized agents involved in fraudulent recruitment activities and cheating Indian citizens is taken into cognizance when such incidents are brought to the attention of the GOI. As and when complaints of illegal recruitment activities by unauthorized agents, including those from the State of Andhra Pradesh, are received in the MEA, they are referred to the State/UT police for investigation and prosecution under the relevant provisions of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) and other legislations in place. Data of complaints of illegal recruitment activities received from the States/UTs, including those from Andhra Pradesh, and action taken against them during the last three years are given in Annexure-I. Data of complaints against unauthorized agent registered on eMigrate portal is given in Annexure-II.

Advisories are issued through the eMigrate portal, social media handles, and other modes about the perils of fake job rackets and ways to prevent

illegal emigration through unauthorised RAs. The MEA, through the 17 Protector of Emigrants (POE) Offices across India, including the POE Office in Andhra Pradesh, also carries out awareness campaign on safe and legal mobility by conducting workshops, training/information sessions, digital campaigns for media groups, police officials and law enforcement agencies, local administration, and general public. MEA also coordinates with the State Nodal agencies on the issues of illegal recruitment activities by fake agencies.

To address grievances of Indian workers employed abroad, there are established channels to enable them to reach out to the Indian Missions/Posts for assistance. They can contact the Missions/Posts through walk-in, email, multilingual 24x7 emergency numbers, WhatsApp number, grievance redressal portal like MADAD/CPGRAMS/eMigrate, and social media. Pravasi Bharatiya Sahayata Kendras have been set up in key locations including New Delhi, Dubai, Jeddah, Kuala Lumpur, London and Riyadh to provide guidance and counselling to Indian workers. Indian Missions/Posts regularly organize Open Houses and Consular Camps in different cities to extend consular services and address any grievances. There are dedicated Labour Wings in the Indian Missions/Posts in most of the Gulf countries which pro-actively take up grievances of emigrant

workers with the concerned FE, inspect the work place of the aggrieved worker and also take up, where required, with the local Labour Department and other host country authorities.

ANNEXURE I**Data regarding complaints of illegal recruitment activities and follow up action [2023 – 2025]**

S.No.	State/UT	Number of Complaints			ATR Submitted by State Police			Number of Cases in which request for issue of prosecution sanction after investigation received			Number of Prosecution Sanctions issued		
		2023	2024	2025	2023	2024	2025	2023	2024	2025	2023	2024	2025
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2.	Andhra Pradesh	445	602	448	5	11	19	1	0	0	1	0	0
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
4.	Assam	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5.	Bihar	6	5	1	1(FIR registered)	1(FIR registered)	1(FIR registered)	0	0	0	0	0	0
6.	Chandigarh	3	9	80	0	0	34 (3 FIRs)	0	0	0	0	0	0
7.	Chhattisgarh	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
8.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
9.	Delhi	4	92	153	0	0	17 ATR 17 FIR	0	11	13	0	11	13
10.	Goa	5	1	13	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

11.	Gujarat	2	9	12	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
12.	Haryana	4	2	33	0	0	09 ATR 0 FIR + 5 ATR+1 FIR	0	1	0	0	1	0
13.	Himachal Pradesh	4	0	2	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
14.	Jammu & Kashmir	1	0	4	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0
15.	Jharkhand	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
16.	Karnataka	32	33	61	6	8	0	3	0	1	3	0	1
17.	Kerala	110	277	238	87 (FIRs Registered)	197(FIRs Registered)	158	7	15	0	7	1	14
18.	Ladakh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
19.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
20.	Madhya Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
21.	Maharashtra	6	14	22	1	1	1	0	1	0	0	1	0
22.	Manipur	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
23.	Meghalaya	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
24.	Mizoram	2	0	4	1	0	3 FIR Registered	0	1	0	0	0	1

25.	Nagaland	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
26.	Odisha	0	5	7	0	2 (FIR Registered)	1 (FIR Registered)	0	0	0	0	0	0
27.	Puducherry	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
28.	Punjab	56	18	80	0	38(FIR Registered)	69	0	0	0	0	0	0
29.	Rajasthan	35	87	97	0	0	4	2	0	0	2	0	0
30.	Sikkim	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
31.	Tamil Nadu	152	106	99	7	64	52	1	0	0	1	0	0
32.	Telangana	132	96	111	35	17	47	0	0	0	0	0	0
33.	Tripura	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
34.	Uttarakhand	0	5	5	0	0	0 ATR 0 FIR	0	0	0	0	0	0
35.	Uttar Pradesh	0	6	31	0	0	08 ATR 03 FIR	0	0	0	0	0	0
36.	West Bengal	5	10	35	2	2	12	0	0	0	0	0	0

Data of complaints against unauthorized agent registered on eMigrate portal during last five years

Year	Total GRs Received	Total GRs Resolved
2021	70	27
2022	189	98
2023	84	43
2024	120	67
2025	321	224
Total	784	459
