

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI):  
(a) and (b) The Indian Mission in Riyadh has reported an increase in the number of Indians at deportation centres in Saudi Arabia in the last week of March, 2013. This is largely on account of the drive against illegal workers in Saudi Arabia. A drive against illegal workers affects both the illegal workers working in companies affected by the 'Nitaquat' policy of the Saudi Government, or in companies not affected by this policy. As of April 7, 2013 as many as 15000 Indians has already requested for the issue of documents to travel to India (Emergency Certificates) from the Embassy of India, Riyadh. Of the EC applications received and processed by the EOI, Riyadh in the 1st week of April, which are on account of both drive against illegal workers, and on account of strict implementation of the 'Nitaquat' policy, the State-wise distribution of applicants was mainly from Uttar Pradesh [338], Andhra Pradesh [186], Tamil Nadu [184], Rajasthan [73], Bihar [60], Kerala [49], West Bengal [39], Karnataka [28] and Uttarakhand [24].

(c) The State Governments of the major labour-sending States have been advised to take appropriate steps in this regard.

**Pension/insurance scheme for overseas Indian workers**

3302. SHRI Y.S. CHOWDARY: Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has any Pension and Life Insurance Fund scheme for the overseas Indian workers having Emigration Check Required (ECR) passports;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of the objectives of the scheme and eligibility criteria; and
- (d) the details of overseas Indian workers' contribution in the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI):  
(a) Yes, Sir. The Government has launched Mahatma Gandhi Pravasi Suraksha Yojana (MGPSY) on 1st May, 2012 on a pilot basis.

(b) and (c) The aims and objectives of MGPSY is to encourage and enable overseas Indian workers having Emigration Check Required (ECR) passports going to ECR countries, to (a) save for their return and resettlement and (b) save for their pension. They are also provided Life Insurance cover against natural death, during the period of coverage, without any additional payment by them.

The scheme is available to overseas Indian workers who are between 18 and 50 years old and have an ECR passport and a valid work permit or employment contract to work in an ECR country.

- (d) A total of 154 overseas Indian workers have registered in this scheme.

#### **Problems of Indian employees in Saudi Arabia**

3303. SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL: Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had any bilateral talk with Saudi Government regarding the state of affairs of Indian employees working in Saudi once the Nitaquat law is implemented;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government would arrange special flights for the workers who lost their jobs, to return to India; and

(d) whether any rehabilitation plan would be announced for such returnees, and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI):  
(a) and (b) A delegation, led by Minister for Overseas Indian Affairs, is scheduled to visit Saudi Arabia in the last week of April.

(c) There is no such proposal under consideration at present.

(d) The State Governments of major labour sending States have been advised to take appropriate action in this regard.

#### **Remittances from Non Resident Indians**

3304. SHRI VIVEK GUPTA: Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Non Resident Indians from various States in other countries, country-wise and State-wise;

(b) the remittances received by the country from NRIs from 2009 till date, country-wise, State-wise and year-wise;