

ANNUAL REPORT

2012 - 13



सत्यमेव जयते

Government of India
Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs



Expanding the **Economic** **Engagement** of the Indian Diaspora with India

Overseas Indian Facilitation Centre (OIFC) is a not for profit public private initiative of the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs (MOIA) with the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII). It was set up in the year 2007 to facilitate NRIs/OCIs/PIOs in their economic engagement with India.



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Annual Report 2012-2013



Government of India
Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs

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INDIA, DIASPORA AND MIGRATION: AN OVERVIEW

India is one of the pioneers in recognising the importance of its overseas population and establishing an institutional framework for a sustainable and mutually beneficial engagement with its Diaspora. By creating an independent Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs, India has given mainstream attention to its estimated 25 million strong Overseas Indian community. The experience gained from bilateral and multilateral engagement with the Diaspora, and with migration related institutions has helped us develop appropriate and well-calibrated institutional responses both for Diaspora engagement and migration management.

INDIA AND ITS DIASPORA

The Indian Diaspora, comprising People of Indian origin and Non-Resident Indians, as India itself, constitutes a heterogeneous and global community, representing diversity of forms, types, geographies and times of formation. It, therefore, requires diverse and distinct approaches to engage them and connect with India. The common thread that binds them together is the idea of India and its intrinsic values.

Historically, the dispersion of people from India and the formation of Indian Diaspora communities is the result of different waves of migration over hundreds of years driven by a variety of reasons: slavery under mercantilism, indentured labour under colonisation, and guest work programmes post colonialism. This transnational engagement of people, riding on the processes of globalisation has been reinforced through global networks of families, friends and

businesses, which are symbiotic and which enable the exchange of shared ideas of cultural, social and economic interests.

In retrospect, the formation of the Indian Diaspora makes up an engaging saga of trials, tribulations and the eventual triumph of determination and hard work. It pleases all Indians when the Overseas Indian community is respected for its work culture, discipline, and successful integration with the local community as much as being counted for its outstanding contributions in their countries of residence. This community having overcome considerable adversity represents an eminently successful Diaspora in the host countries with several of its representatives occupying leadership positions there. We could look at them as a significant strategic resource for India as they have considerably added to knowledge, innovation and development across the globe.

Contemporary flows from India are of two kinds: The first is the emigration of highly skilled professionals, workers and students with tertiary and higher educational qualifications migrating to developed countries, particularly to the USA, UK, Canada, Australia and New Zealand. This flow started after Indian independence and gathered momentum with the emigration of IT professional in the 1990s. The second is the flow of unskilled and semi-skilled workers going mostly to the Gulf countries and Malaysia, following the oil boom in the Gulf countries, mainly from Kerala and other south Indian states. Of late, however northern states in India like Uttar Pradesh and Bihar have also emerged as the leading states of origin for such migration.

Put together, these migratory flows have resulted in diverse communities of people of Indian origin in various parts of the world: East Asia, the Middle-East Asia, South and Eastern Africa, Europe, North America, Australia, the northern part of South America and the Caribbean Islands. These distinct communities of people of Indian origin as well as Indian nationals living abroad constitute the vast Indian Diaspora. There is no single homogeneous Overseas Indian community; there exist diversities within them, including in the level and degree of their engagement with India, defined by the lapse of time, generations and distance that separate them from their country of origin.

The Diasporas provide important links and contact points between home and host societies by building transnational networks which transact not only emotional and familial bonds, but also cultural, social and economic interests. With advances in information technology and cheaper transport services, the Diaspora, as compared to situations prevailing earlier, are able to maintain connections with people and networks back home more effectively. Such Diaspora associations in host countries impact and influence local businesses, even political decisions, thereby

ensuring a friendlier environment and outcomes for the existing and prospective migrants. At the same time, these Diaspora associations also help to channel remittances, capital and investments to benefit not only home communities, but also by developing partnerships with host country counterparts, benefiting both. The same can be said of the exchange of skills, cuisines, ideas, knowledge and technology.

As such, we can assume that such exchanges between host and home countries, leveraged through the Diaspora, are never unidirectional or temporary or limited in scope. What remains a work in progress, however, is the formation of mechanisms or patterns to engage the Diasporas to its full potential.

We cherish our relationship with the Indian diaspora. Engaging with the Diaspora in a sustainable and mutually rewarding manner across the economic, social and cultural space is at the heart of the policy of the Ministry. We, a small team of officers in MOIA, continually seek to create conditions, partnerships and institutions that will best enable India to connect with its Diaspora in a meaningful and mutually rewarding way.



Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh lighting the ceremonial lamp at the inaugural ceremony of PBD 2013 at Kochi. Also present are Mr. Rajkeswur Purryag, President of Mauritius and Minister of Overseas Indian Affairs, Shri Vayalar Ravi

Such engagement has to take into account the fact that it is not necessary for all Overseas Indians to be a part of the development process. Not all of them need to make financial contributions, nor do they need to relocate to India. These 'Global Indians' can serve as bridges by providing access to markets, sources of investment, expertise, knowledge and technology; they can shape, by their informed participation, the discourse on migration and development, and help articulate the need for policy coherence in the countries of destination and origin.

All of this requires not only the home country to establish conditions and institutions for a sustainable, symbiotic and mutually rewarding engagement with the Diaspora-which are central to our programmes and activities; but for the Diaspora to project themselves as intrinsically motivated and progressive communities as well.

INDIA AND MIGRATION

Globalisation has been a major factor influencing the international movement of people and for the growth of transnational communities. It is estimated that 215 million people, constituting about 3 percent of the world's population, live outside their native countries (IOM 2010). The top 20 countries of migrant origin accounted for over half of all international migration flows in 2008, with China, Poland, India and Mexico at the top of the list (OECD 2010).

A wide range of considerations shape the public discourse on international migration: the growing mobility of labour in a globalising economy, emerging population and demographic dynamics, integration issues as well as enhanced security concerns. It is difficult to envision a world progressively integrating with the flow of capital, goods and services without some movement of people. The question is no longer whether to allow migration, but rather how to manage migration effectively to enhance its positive aspects. The challenge is to maximise the benefits from migration and transform it into a win-all process for the countries of origin, destination and the migrants themselves. Yet, realities, such as internal concern and economic downturns, the barriers to the movement of people also crop up.

In India, the migratory flows of the both skilled and the unskilled, have undergone changes due

to the pervasive economic restructuring under globalization that creates opportunities as well as challenges. In the case of unskilled migrants, the policy responses from public administration, both in the countries of origin and destination, towards safe and adequate legal protection to the migrants, continue to maintain its salience. At the same time, limiting the scope of irregular migration primarily by ensuring transparent systems and regulation for the transnational movement of people continues as a work in progress. While there are scattered good practices internationally, these need not only documentation but also customised application and wider replication.

While there is a growing recognition of the opportunities that migration offers for economic growth, development and stability in host and home countries; the public perception of migrants remains hostage to powerful and misinformed assumptions and negative stereotypes of migrants in host countries. Lower skilled migrants, in particular, are often seen as displacing local workers and abusing social welfare systems and this mistrust grows with economic insecurity. Following the global economic downturn, the discourse on migration has again become victim to populist and ill-informed debate with rising anti-immigrant sentiments spouted by fringe parties in many countries. Even amongst moderates, the issue of integration of the overseas community with the host society continues to be a concern.

The truth is that migrants of all skill levels considerably contribute to societies. They spawn creativity, nourish the human spirit and spur economic growth. They bring diversity, provide innovation and bring about economic development and growth in the host societies.

Even by a modest liberalisation of the temporary movement of persons to provide services under Mode 4 of the General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS)-which by all accounts is only a small percentage of annual cross-border movements-has been projected to produce annual global welfare gains of between US\$150 billion to US\$200 billion, outstripping gains expected from a further liberalization of the trade in services. Despite the potential benefits of liberalizing the temporary movement of persons under GATS Mode 4, most countries have made relatively limited commitments under Mode 4, for reasons



Shri Vayalar Ravi, Minister of Overseas Indian Affairs and Mr. Edward Fast, Minister of International Trade and Minister for the Asia-Pacific Gateway, Canada signing Social Security Agreement between India and Canada on 6th November, 2012 at New Delhi

brought out above. Thus, there remains a substantial incoherence between the trade and migration regimes (both within and between countries).

One misinformed assumption is that migration takes place primarily in a South-North direction. The current data indicates that more than 40 percent of migration takes place between developing countries. This is likely to strengthen as developing countries grow at a faster rate. India itself is as much a country of origin as that of destination and transit: a fact which places us in a unique position in the discourse on human resource mobility. It is in this context that MOIA engages with a wide range of academia to collaborate on empirical and analytical work to enable evidence-based policymaking.

Therefore, there is as much a need to foster international cooperation amongst countries of origin and destination, as also for greater policy coherence amongst various departments of government, to enhance our ability to manage migration better in the medium to long term. The approach has been to work towards building a consensus that can transform migration into an orderly and mutually beneficial economic process that is a win-all for all stakeholders in both the

countries of origin and destination. India is well placed to contribute to developing a robust, harmonious and efficient migration framework.

The primary motivation for migration is economic and, at the heart of migration management, is the imperative to maximise the development impact of international migration for all. The scale and spread of the Indian experience of managing Migration as well as Development and the intimate interplay of these two complex processes is substantial. With the second-largest overseas population, its status as the country that receives amongst the highest remittances, its experience in effectively addressing the problems of poverty, inequality and unemployment in an unfailingly democratic manner, India can provide the much needed impetus to meaningfully reinforce the symbiotic development-migration paradigm.

India exemplifies the strengths of a large, tolerant, secular, live democracy with a pluralistic society in which people of different faiths, languages, ethnicities and political persuasions co-exist and thrive. Indeed, this milieu is the 'sine qua non' of any society that can create conditions for positive migratory movements and labour mobility for the benefit of all.

THE MINISTRY AND ITS MANDATE

I. INTRODUCTION

The Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs (MOIA) aspire to be a one-stop address for Overseas Indians. Established in May, 2004 as the 'Ministry of Non-Resident Indians' Affairs, it was renamed as the 'Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs' (MOIA) in September, 2004. The Emigration Division of the Ministry of Labour and Employment was attached to the new Ministry in December 2004 and now functions as the Emigration Services Division which also has within the Protectorate General of Emigrants (PGE). The erstwhile NRI Division of the Ministry of External Affairs now functions as the Diaspora Division in the Ministry. The functions allocated to the Ministry is at Annexure-A.

Small and unconventional, the Ministry is headed by a Cabinet Minister and has five functional divisions: Diaspora Services, Financial Services, Emigration Services, Economic Division and Management Services. A small team of 22 officers (Under Secretaries and above) works at the Ministry in a de-layered and multitask mode, leveraging the power of partnership and outsourcing.

The Protector General of Emigrants (PGE) administers the Emigration Act, 1983. He oversees the field offices of the Protectors of Emigrants located at Chandigarh, Chennai, Delhi, Hyderabad, Jaipur, Kochi, Kolkata, Mumbai and Thiruvananthapuram. The Jaipur office was opened in 2012.

The Ministry has physical presence in Abu Dhabi and Washington in the form of Counsellors Community Development and Community Affairs respectively.

II. POLICY FRAMEWORK

The MOIA is the nodal Ministry for all matters relating to Overseas Indians, comprising Persons

of Indian Origin (PIO), Non-Resident Indians (NRIs) and Overseas Citizens of Indian (OCI). India's engagement with its overseas community has been mainstreamed with the establishment of MOIA. Its Mission is to establish a robust and vibrant institutional framework to facilitate and support mutually beneficial networks with and among Overseas Indians to maximise the development impact for India and enable overseas Indians to invest in and benefit from the opportunities in India.

In accomplishing this mission, the Ministry is guided by four key policy imperatives:

- Offer customised solutions to meet the varied expectations of the Overseas Indian community.
- To bring a strategic dimension to India's engagement with its Diaspora.
- Tap the investible diasporic community in terms of knowledge and resources in diversified economic, social and cultural areas.
- Anchor diasporic initiatives in the States.

III. INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS

In line with the policy focus of the Ministry, an institutional framework has been established that can support sustainable engagement with and among Overseas Indians based on three value propositions:

- Engaging with multi-skilled, market-driven entities, promoted by MOIA, and knowledge partners from the private sector;
- Engaging with States and academic institutions as stakeholder partners, as initiatives related to Overseas Indians have to be anchored in the States; and
- MOIA to stay small, facilitate activity on the ground, and drive policy changes.

To fulfil its mandate, the focus of the Ministry is now strengthening the institutional

arrangements already established by it to promote sustainable and mutually beneficial engagement between Overseas Indians and India across the economic, social and cultural spaces. The following institutional arrangements have been established by the Ministry:

- The **Prime Minister's Global Advisory Council** (PMGAC), that serves as a high-level body to draw upon the talent of the best Overseas Indian minds wherever they might reside.
- The **India Center for Migration** (ICM), earlier called Indian Council of Overseas Employment (ICOE), a not-for-profit society, to serve as a 'strategic think tank on matters relating to overseas employment markets for Indians and overseas Indian workers.
- The **Overseas Indian Facilitation Centre** (OIFC), a not-for-profit trust in partnership with the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), to serve as a one stop shop for economic engagement, investment and business.
- The **India Development Foundation** (IDF), a not-for-profit trust to serve as a credible single window to facilitate Diaspora philanthropy and lead Overseas Indian philanthropic capital into India's social development effort.
- The **Global Indian Network of Knowledge** (Global-INK), an electronic platform to facilitate transfer of knowledge with the objective of leveraging the expertise, skills and experience of Overseas Indians.
- **Overseas Indian Centres** (OIC) at the Indian Missions in Washington and Abu Dhabi, to begin with, to serve as field formations on matters relating to Overseas Indians.

IV PROGRAMMES AND ACTIVITIES

Besides dealing with several matters relating to PIOs and NRIs, the Ministry is engaged in several initiatives with Overseas Indians in the promotion of trade and investment, emigration, education, culture, health, and science & technology, among other areas. MOIA has policies, programmes and schemes that seek to meet the varied expectations and needs of the diverse Overseas Indian community under the following rubric:

- Awareness campaign on the risks of illegal migration
- E-governance in Emigration

- India Center for Migration
- India Development Foundation of Overseas Indians
- Know India Programme
- Mahatma Gandhi Pravasi Suraksha Yojna
- Overseas Citizenship of India
- Overseas Indian Facilitation Centre
- Overseas Workers Resource Centre
- Pravasi Bharatiya Bima Yojana
- Pravasi Bharatiya Divas
- Pravasi Bharatiya Kendra
- Scholarship Scheme for Diaspora Children

Overseas Indian workers constitute an important segment of the Indian Diaspora. International migration is, therefore, a strategic focus area for the Ministry. Policy interventions as well as bilateral cooperation with destination countries constitute important focus areas of work of the Ministry. Besides concluding Labour Welfare and Protection Agreements with the Gulf countries and Malaysia for the benefit of skilled and semi-skilled workers, the Ministry has successfully entered into bilateral Social Security Agreements (SSA) with Belgium, France, Germany (Social Insurance and Comprehensive SSA), Switzerland, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Hungary, Denmark, Republic of Korea, the Czech Republic, Norway, Finland, Canada, Japan and Sweden. The Ministry is also negotiating bilateral SSAs with countries in Europe, North America and the Asia Pacific for the benefit of Indian professionals. An Agreement on Human Resource Mobility Partnership (HRMP) has already been signed with Denmark. The Ministry has initiated the process for negotiating HRMP agreements to enhance overseas employment avenues with the Netherlands, Australia, France, Italy, Norway, Switzerland, Hungary, Sweden, Belgium, Romania, Mauritius and European Union. It is in the process of finalising an HRMP with The Netherlands and France.

In addition, the Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (PBD), along with the Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Awards, continues to be the flagship event of the Ministry. PBD commemorates the return of Mahatma Gandhi - the first great Pravasi, from South Africa to India to lead a successful non-violent struggle for India's freedom. This programme also seeks to bring the expertise and knowledge of Overseas Indians on a common platform and integrate it into the country's development process.

LOOKING BACK AT 2012-2013

In the past year, India continued to reach out and connect with its vast Diaspora through a host of schemes, programmes and initiatives besides effectively carrying out the previous initiatives in meaningful way. Despite the global economic downturn, **India remained the largest recipient of inward remittances for a fourth year in a row, estimated \$ 70 billion by the World Bank.** The labour outflow in the Emigration check required category from India amounted to 747,000 people in 2012 compared to 626,000 in 2011.

The year 2012-2013 has been an eventful and productive year for the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs.

The milestones of the year, in brief, are:

1. A protocol on web-based attestation was signed with the United Arab Emirates on 4 April 2012. The Contract Registration and Validation System affords the workers the opportunity to review and approve the terms of the proposed work contract and working conditions prior departing India and reporting to his/her job thereby ensuring full transparency of the contracting process, safeguarding the interest of worker and employer alike.
2. PGE and JS(FS) participated in the Abu Dhabi Dialogue (ABD) at Manila from 17-19 April, 2012 with the theme of "Dialogue among Asian Countries of Labour Origin and Destination on the Administration of the Temporary Contract Employment Cycle". During this dialogue a range of practical steps related to protection and welfare of workers were agreed to by both countries of origin and destination. It also led to broad-basing the cooperation pattern under the ABD to improve the administration of the temporary contract cycle.
3. A pension and life insurance scheme called "Mahatma Gandhi Pravasi Suraksha Yojna" for the Overseas Indian workers having Emigration Check required passports has been introduced on a pilot basis in Kerala from 1st May, 2012. The objective of the scheme is to encourage and enable such overseas Indian workers to save for old age, save for their return and Resettlement by giving government contribution, and obtain a life insurance cover against natural death.
4. A delegation was led by Secretary to Kenya to participate in Diaspora Engagement meet organized by Overseas Indian Facilitation Centre on 13-14 April, 2012 at Nairobi. The meet was attended by 110 participants.
5. An Indian delegation visited Budapest, Hungary from 21-23 May, 2012 for finalization of forms of Social Security Agreement between India and Hungary.
6. An Indian delegation visited Tokyo, Japan from 28-31 May, 2012 for Fourth Round of negotiations of Social Security Agreement between India and Japan.
7. The Social Security Agreement between the Republic of India and Republic of Finland was signed on 12th June, 2012.
8. The Planning Commission accorded 'in principle' approval to the proposed plan Scheme namely 'Swarnpravas Yojna' to be launched in the 12th Five year Plan. The scheme aims to facilitate creation of a framework of internationally acceptable standards of training, certification etc. so that Indian youth are able to find employment in the International market. Outlays to be provided to MOIA during the 12th Five Year Plan for the Scheme will be decided by the Planning Commission in due course.

9. The European Union (EU)-India High level Dialogue (HLD) on Migration and Mobility was held on 2 July, 2012. The EU side was led by Mr. Stefano Manservigi, Director General, Home Affairs, European Commission and included representatives from the Presidency of the European Union, EU Member States, EU delegation and European External Action service. The Indian side was led by Secretary, MOIA and included the representatives of the MOIA, Ministry of External Affairs, Ministry of Home Affairs and India Center for Migration.
10. The annual Steering Group meeting of the Prime Minister's Global Advisory Council of Overseas Indians was held in New Delhi on 30 July, 2012.
11. Economic Advisor attended the 1st meeting of the 'Core Group on Safe Mobility of Women Workers' formed by UN Women in Kathmandu on 29 August, 2012. The Core Group unanimously elected EA alongwith the member from Bangladesh as Cochairs of the Core Group.
12. A conference with the European Member State was held on 6-7 September, 2012 for facilitating safe and legal migration and preventing irregular migration by the Indian Center for Migration.
13. The Sixth Annual Conference of the Heads of Missions was held on 17 September, 2012 in New Delhi. The Conference was attended by heads of Missions from 15 countries, senior officials from other Ministries including the Ministry of External Affairs, Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Labour and Employment and the representatives from the major labour sending States.
14. A joint working Group Meeting was held with Sultanate of Oman on 11-12 September, 2012 in Mumbai to discuss the welfare issues of the Indian labourers in that country.
15. The Fifth Annual Consultation meeting with the State governments was held on 20-21 September, 2012 to discuss issues relating to Overseas Indians and emigration and as to how best the Ministry could partner with the State Governments in providing necessary support to effectively help address various concerns of Overseas Indians.
16. PGE visited Cambodia from 3-5 September, 2012 for attending the UN Women conference on International labour Standards and Women Migrant Workers' Right.
17. An Inter-ministerial delegation led by Secretary, MOIA visited France to discuss human Resource Mobility Partnership from 26-28 September, 2012.
18. "Study India programme" was launched for the first time in Symbiosis University, Pune, Maharashtra with participation of youths of Indian origin from four countries. The youths had undergone short term course to familiarize them with the history, heritage, art, culture, socio-political, economic developments etc. of India.
19. Indian delegation led by Joint Secretary, MOIA visited Moscow, Russia from 17-19 October, 2012 for Expert Consultations on Social Security Agreement between India and Russia.
20. 6th Regional Pravasi Bhartiya Divas was organized in Mauritius on 27-28 October, 2012 to have interaction & discussion with Indian Diaspora to ensure their connectivity with their ancestral motherland as well as to know expectations and concerns. Minister, Overseas Indian Affairs gave inaugural address in Regional PBD.
21. Secretary, MOIA visited Nicosia, Cyprus from 30-31 October, 2012 for attending 11th ASEM Conference of Director General of Immigration and Management of Migratory Flows.
22. Economic Advisor attended the 2nd meeting of the UN Women 'Core Group on Safe Mobility of women' in Dhaka on 7 November, 2012.
23. The Social Security Agreement between the Republic of India and Canada was signed on 6 November, 2012 in New Delhi.
24. The Social Security Agreement between the Republic of India and Japan was signed on 16 November, 2012 in Tokyo.
25. The Social Security Agreement between the Republic of India and Sweden was signed on 26 November, 2012 in New Delhi.
26. A Japanese delegation visited New Delhi from 3-5 December, 2012 for negotiation of

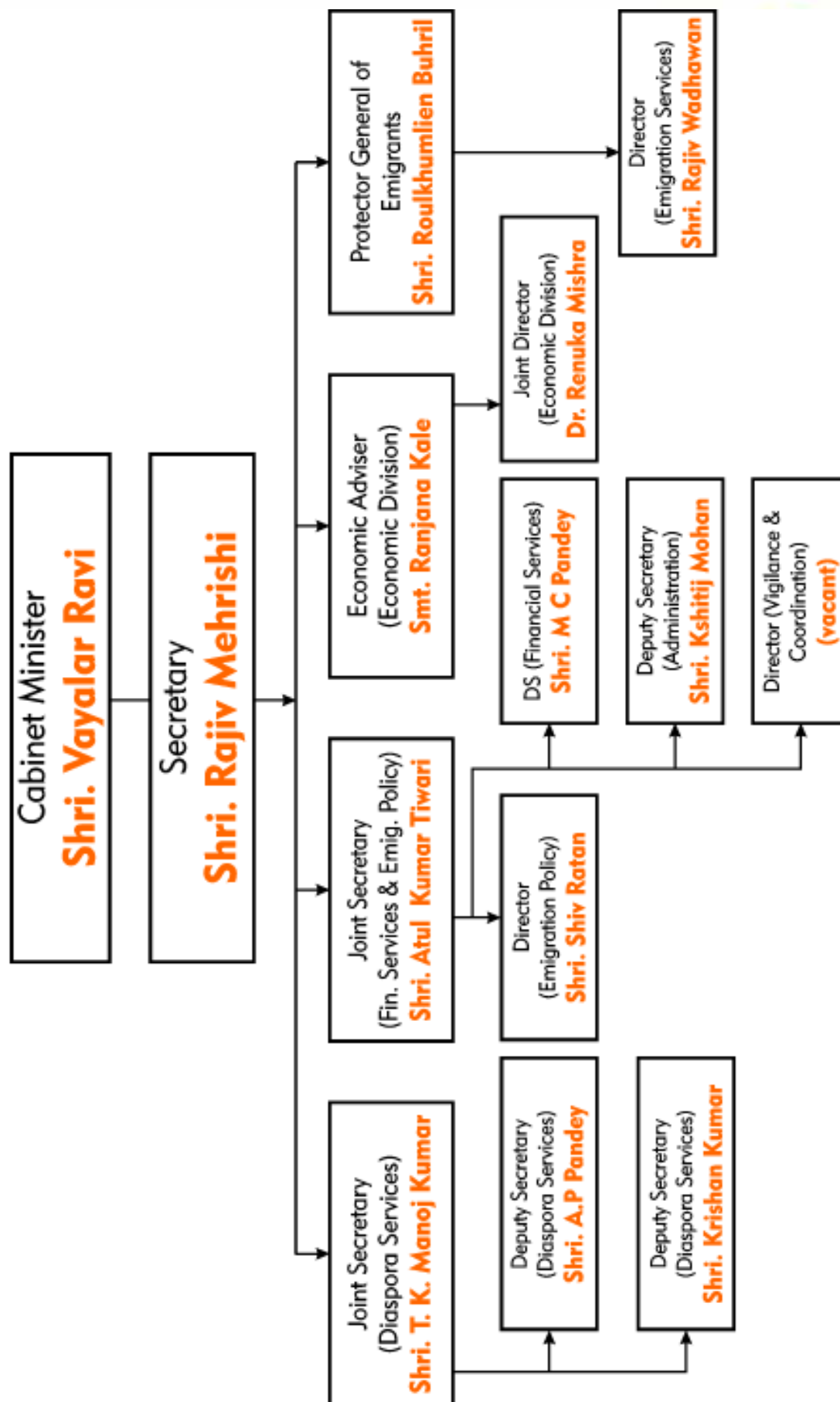
Administrative Arrangement and finalization of forms.

27. The 11th edition of the Pravasi Bhartiya Divas convention was held at Kochi from 7-9 January, 2013. The convention was organized in partnership with the State Government of Kerala. It was inaugurated by the Prime Minister on 8 January 2013 and the valedictory address was delivered by the President on 9 January, 2013. The President also conferred the Pravasi Bhartiya Award on 15 distinguished PIOs/NRIs. The Hon'ble Prime Minister released a stamp on Ghadar movement. Mr. Rajkeshwur Purryag, His Excellency President of the Republic of the Mauritius was the Chief Guest.
28. The fourth meeting of the Prime Minister's Global Advisory Council of Overseas Indians at Kochi was held on 8 January, 2013. Prime Minister presided over the meeting attended by cabinet colleagues, distinguished members of the Council and secretaries to the Government of India.
29. PGE and Deputy Secretary (DS) visited Thailand in January, 2013 for attending the ADBI roundtable conference on Labour migration in Asia.
30. The Social Security Agreement between the Republic of India and Austria was signed on 4 February, 2013 in Vienna.
31. During the year, four Know India Programme has been held so far with participation of 109 overseas Youth of Indian origin.
32. The Social Security Agreement between the Republic of India & The Republic of Portugal was signed on 4th March, 2013.
33. The Parliamentary Standing Committee on External Affairs meetings on following topics;
 - i) "Voting Rights to Non- Resident Indians (NRIs)" on 19 January, 2012.
 - ii) "Problems relating to Overseas Indian Workers employed in Gulf Countries" on 2 July, 2012.
 - iii) "Reforms in Emigration Systems" on 9 November, 2012.
 - iv) "Problems being faced by Indian Students abroad" on 16 November, 2012.
 - v) "Illegal Human Trafficking from India" on 24 January, 2013.



Shri Vayalar Ravi, Minister of Overseas Indian Affairs and Mr. Ulf Kristersson, Minister of Social Security, Sweden on the occasion of signing of Social Security Agreement between India and Sweden on 26th November 2012 at New Delhi

Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs (MOIA) Team



DIASPORA SERVICES DIVISION

The Diaspora Services Division deals with all matters relating to Overseas Indians comprising Persons of Indian Origin (PIO) and Non-Resident Indians (NRIs), Overseas Citizenship of India matters, Pravasi Bharatiya Divas, Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Awards, Scholarships to NRI/PIO students in India and new initiatives to promote interaction of overseas Indians with India in tourism, media, youth affairs, education, culture among other areas.

I. Voting Rights to Non-Resident Indians (NRIs)

The Representation of Peoples Amendment Act, 2010 has been passed conferring voting rights on overseas Indian passport holders. A notification dated 3rd February, 2011 has been issued allowing overseas electors' names to be included in the roll pertaining to the locality in which their place of residence in India as mentioned in their passport is located. Overseas electors are required to apply in the requisite form alongwith copies of all the documents mentioned in the said form to the concerned registration officer directly or send the application to the registration officer (RO) by post. The rules allow self-attestation of documents by the applicants. As per electoral rolls, 2013 the total number of overseas Indian electors is 11,328.

II. Overseas Citizenship of India (OCI)

Keeping in view Government's deep commitment of engaging Persons of Indian Origin with the land of their ancestors in a mutually beneficial relationship, the Overseas Citizenship of India (OCI) Scheme was launched in August, 2005 by amending the Citizenship Act, 1955. The OCI Scheme is operated by the Ministry of Home Affairs. The Scheme provides for registration as Overseas Citizens of India (OCI) of all Persons of Indian Origin (PIOs) who were citizens of India

on or after 26 January, 1950 or were eligible to become citizens of India on 26 January, 1950 and who are citizens of other countries, except Pakistan and Bangladesh.

2. The Scheme provides for the issue of OCI documents consisting of OCI registration certificate and universal visa sticker to PIOs. The Scheme has been operational since January 2006 and as on 11 February 2013, a total number of **12,52,903** PIOs have been registered as OCIs.

3. A registered Overseas Citizen of India is granted multiple entry, multi-purpose, life-long visa for visiting India, and is exempted from registration with Foreigners Regional Registration Office for any length of stay in India. As mandated under the Allocation of Business, the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs has issued notifications granting registered OCIs further benefits as under:

- (i) Parity with Non-Resident Indians in the matter of inter-country adoption of Indian children;
- (ii) Parity with resident Indian nationals in matters of tariffs in domestic airfares;
- (iii) Parity with domestic Indian visitors in respect of entry fee for visiting national parks and wildlife sanctuaries in India;
- (iv) Parity with non-resident Indians in respect of:
 - (a) entry fee for visiting the national monuments, historical sites and museums in India;
 - (b) practicing the following professions in India, in pursuance of the provisions contained in the relevant Acts, namely:
 - Medicine, dentists, nursing and pharmacy;
 - Law;
 - Architecture; and
 - Chartered Accountancy; and
- (v) Entitlement to appear for the All India Pre-Medical Test or such other tests to make them eligible for admission in pursuance of the provisions contained in the relevant Acts.

However, the OCI is not 'dual nationality'. OCI does not confer political rights. Detailed instructions and procedures concerning the OCI Scheme are available in the MHA's website: www.mha.nic.in.

An on-line OCI miscellaneous service is now available for issuance of duplicate OCI documents, in case of issuance of new passports, change of personal particulars, such as nationality, name, change of address/occupation etc. and loss/damage of OCI registration certificate/visa.

It is proposed to merge the PIO card and OCI card scheme and call it **Overseas Indian Card Scheme**. A Bill in this regard is under consideration of the Parliament. It will enable acquisition of OCI registration by minors, both parents of whom are Indian citizens or one parent is an Indian citizen. It will also grant OCI and to the foreign spouse of OCI card holder. It can be granted to PIOs up to four generation levels, i.e. PIOs whose parents, grandparents or great grand parents had been of Indian Origin.

III. Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (PBD)

The Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (PBD) Convention is the flagship event of the Ministry - organized every

year since January, 2003, with a view to connecting India to its vast Indian Diaspora and bring their knowledge, expertise and skills on a common platform.

The 11th edition of the Pravasi Bharatiya Divas Convention was held in Kochi from 7- 9 January, 2013. The Convention was organized in partnership with the Government of Kerala. It was inaugurated by the Prime Minister on 8 January, 2013 and the Valedictory Address was delivered by the President on 9 January, 2013. The President also conferred the Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Award on 15 distinguished PIOs/NRIs. Mr. Rajkeswur Purryag, H.E. President of the Republic of Mauritius was the Chief Guest.

The three day Convention saw a participation of around 2000 persons including overseas delegates, speakers, exhibitors, state government officials, media persons etc. These included 13 Members of the Prime Minister's Global Advisory Council and PIO Ministers from different countries like Mauritius and Malaysia, Ministers from Canada and UK besides Union Ministers and Chief Ministers, PIO dignitaries, distinguished speakers and other noted Indians from diverse fields.



Shri Pranab Mukherjee, President of India and other dignitaries during the valedictory session of PBD 2013 at Kochi

The flagship event of the Ministry was widely acclaimed as a grand success both for its organizational aspects and its substantive aspect, as also for the choice of speakers and the topicality of the themes chosen for deliberation at its various sessions. The four pre-conference seminars of NRIs in the Gulf, Skill Development, Tourism and Pure Sciences drew enthusiastic participation of all stakeholders and came in for appreciation from several quarters. The Gulf session was attended by the Indian Ambassadors to Gulf Cooperation Council countries, Shri E. Ahmed, Minister of State for External Affairs, Chief Minister of Kerala, Mr. K.C. Joseph, Minister for Non-Resident Kerala Affairs and delegates from the Gulf.

The Convention had four plenary sessions:

- India's Growth: Greater Opportunities
- Heritage and Diaspora
- Engaging Young Overseas Indians
- Investment opportunities in States

The Convention also had four concurrent sessions:

- Innovation and Technology
- Meeting of Diaspora Organizations
- India's Growing Soft Power
- Overseas Indians and India

In addition, there were separate State sessions and the PBD Oration by PBD Oration on 'Ghadar Movement' by Prof. Harish Puri, retired Professor of Political Science and Head, BR Ambedkar Chair Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar.

Highlights of PBD 2013

- Overwhelming participation by delegates from India and abroad.
- Release of a stamp on the Ghadar Movement by Prime Minister of India.
- Release of publications - (i) India Supports and (ii) Handbook for Emigrants.
- Attendance by a host of dignitaries from abroad.
- Four plenary sessions, four concurrent sessions besides separate States sessions.
- Four pre-conference seminars of NRIs in the Gulf, Skill Development, Tourism and Pure Sciences.
- PBD Oration on 'Ghadar Movement'.

The Ghadar Movement started in 1913 by Non-Resident Indians in the USA and Canada was an important milestone in India's long struggle for freedom from foreign rule; the bravery show and the sacrifice made by the "Ghadar Babas"

will always find a place in the annals of self sacrifice for mother India. This is the centenary year of their movement. To commemorate the event, and honour the brave individuals involved in the struggle, during the Pravasi Bhartiya Divas at Kochi this year, the honorable Prime Minister announced that the Ghadar Memorial in San Francisco would be converted into a functional museum and library, with a sculpture to honour the Ghadar Babas. The Government of India will appropriately fund the project.

IV. Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Awards (PBSA)

The Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Award (PBSA) is conferred on Non-Resident Indians, Persons of Indian Origin or Organizations or Institutions established and run by Non-Resident Indians or Persons of Indian Origin, who have excelled in their fields which has enhanced India's prestige in their country of residence and who have made (i) significant contribution towards better understanding abroad of India and supported India's causes and concerns in a tangible way; (ii) significant contribution for the welfare of the diaspora; (iii) notable contribution in philanthropic and charitable work and for social and humanitarian causes in India and abroad; (iv) significant contribution in building closer links between India and its diaspora in the economic, cultural and scientific fields; and (v) for eminence in their skills which has enhanced India's prestige in that country. It is conferred by the President of India as a part of the Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (PBD) Convention. PBSA is the highest honour conferred on overseas Indians. PBSA 2013 was conferred on the following:

Mr. Rajkeswur Purryag
Australia India Society of Victoria
Prof. Dr. Gursharan Singh Chhatwal
Mr. Ashok Shambhomal Vaswani
Indian Doctors Forum, Kuwait
Tan Sri Ravindran Menon
Dr. Rasik Vihari Joshi
Dr. Satendra Kumar Singh
Mr. Gilbert Canabady Moutien
Mr. Mohammed Rabeeh Karuvanthodi
Mr. Ismail Ebrahim Ebrahim
Mr. Bava Pandalingal
Ms. Patricia Maria Rozario
Dr. Narendra Ramakrishna Kumar
Mr. Subash Razdan

V. Pravasi Bharatiya Divas Convention in Mauritius from 27-28 October, 2012

6th Regional/Overseas Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (PBD) Convention was organized by MOIA in Mauritius on 27 to 28 October, 2012 to have interaction and discussion with Indian Diaspora to ensure their connectivity with their ancestral motherland as well to know their expectations and concerns. The event was attended by the Prime Minister of Mauritius and the President of Mauritius besides several other Cabinet Ministers of Mauritius. The Hon'ble Minister of Overseas Indian Affairs gave an address in the inaugural session. Four plenary sessions were held on (i) expectations and aspirations of Indian Diaspora from India (ii) PIO entrepreneurs - success stories: exploring business opportunities in the India Ocean (iii) role of youth in maintaining PIO links and cultural heritage in the modern era and (iv) contemporary and future relationship between Indian Diaspora and India.

5 Regional PBDs have been held earlier at following places so far:

1. New York, USA on 24 September, 2007
2. Singapore on 10-11 October, 2008
3. The Hague, Netherlands on 19 September, 2009
4. Durban, South Africa on 1-2 October, 2010
5. Toronto, Canada on 8-10 June, 2011

VI. KNOW INDIA PROGRAMME (KIP)

The objective of the Ministry's Know India Programme is to help familiarize Indian Diaspora youth, in the age group of 18-26 years, with developments and achievements made by the country and bringing them closer to the land of their ancestors. KIP provides a unique forum for students and young professionals of Indian origin to visit India, share their views, expectations and experiences and to bond closely with contemporary India. The Ministry has conducted 23 editions of KIPs so far and a total of 700 overseas Indian youth have participated in these programmes.

The participants are selected based on nominations received from Indian Missions/Posts abroad. They are provided hospitality and are reimbursed 90% of their economy class return airfare from their respective country to India. The programme content broadly includes the following:

- (a) Presentations on the country, the constitution, the political process, etc.
- (b) Interaction with faculty and students at a prestigious University / College / Institute
- (c) Presentation on industrial development and visit to some Industries
- (d) Visit to a village to better understand the typical village life in India



Members of 23rd Know India Programme at PBD, Kochi

- (e) Exposure to Indian media and cinema
- (f) Interaction with NGOs and organizations dealing with women's issues
- (g) Visits to places of historical importance or monuments
- (h) Participation in Cultural programmes
- (i) Exposure to Yoga
- (j) Call on high dignitaries, which may include the President of India, the Chief Election Commissioner of India, the Comptroller and Auditor General of India, and Ministers in-charge of Overseas Indian Affairs, Youth Affairs and Sports, etc.

This year four editions of KIP were organized. 20th Know India Programme was held from 25 April to 15 May, 2012 with Partner State of Goa. 32 participants from 12 countries took part in it. The 21st KIP was held from 29 August to 18 September, 2012 in partnership with the state of Tamil Nadu. 36 overseas youths of Indian origin from 11 countries took part. The 22nd KIP was held in partnership with the state of Uttarakhand from 16 November to 6 December, 2012 in which 07 participants from 05 countries participated. 23rd Know India Programme (KIP) was organized from 21 December, 2012 to 10 January 2013 in partnership with the state of Kerala. 34 participants from 9 countries took part in it. Participants of the 23rd KIP also attended the Pravasi Bharatiya Divas 2013 at Kochi, Kerala.

The Ministry also hosted 11 participants of the 5th Know Goa Programme (KGP) for the Delhi and Agra part of the programme in December, 2012. The Know Goa Programmes are organized by the Government of Goa for NRI/PIO youths whose forefathers migrated from Goa and are presently residing overseas.

VIII. Study India Programme from 25.09.2012 to 23.10.2012

First 'Study India Programme' (SIP) was organized from 25 September to 23 October, 2012 in Symbiosis University, Pune, Maharashtra with participation of 9 youths of Indian origin from four countries like Trinidad & Tobago, Malaysia, Fiji and South Africa. Like KIP, SIP has immense potential of connecting youth Indian Diaspora with India through the channel of educational institutions. SIP will be held twice a year for a period of four weeks involving maximum 40 Diaspora youths in the age-group of 18-26 years.

It will enable Overseas Indian youth to undergo short term course in an Indian University to familiarize them with the history, heritage, art, culture, socio-political, economic developments etc. of India.

The focus of the programme is on academic orientation and research. Cost of boarding, lodging, local transportation, course fee during the programme to be borne by Govt. of India and 50% of the cost of air-ticket by economy class would be borne by Govt. of India. Gratis Visas by Indian Mission are granted to the participants.

IX. SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMME FOR DIASPORA CHILDREN (SPDC)

A scheme called 'Scholarship Programme for Diaspora Children (SPDC)' was launched in the academic year 2006-07. Under the scheme 100 scholarships upto US\$ 4000 per annum are granted to PIO and NRI students for undergraduate courses in Engineering/Technology, Humanities/Liberal Arts, Commerce, Management, Journalism, Hotel Management, Agriculture/Animal Husbandry etc. The scheme is being implemented by Educational Consultants India Limited (Ed. CIL), a Government of India Enterprise under the Ministry of Human Resource Development. The scheme is open to NRIs / PIOs/OCIs from 40 countries with substantial Indian Diaspora population. A total of 568 candidates have availed the scholarship since inception of the scheme. SPDC scheme has been modified and it has been decided to do away with the "Common Entrance Test (CET)" for selecting PIO/OCI and NRI students for the award of scholarships. The applications from students who meet the prescribed eligibility criteria are to be evaluated and short listed by a selection committee consisting of officers from the Ministry of Human Resource Development, Ed.CIL (India) Ltd. and MOIA.

X. TRACING THE ROOTS

The Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs is running a scheme since October 2008 known as "Tracing the Roots" to facilitate PIOs in tracing their roots in India. PIOs who intend to trace their roots in India need to apply in a prescribed Form, through the Indian Mission/Post in the country of their

residence. Application Form for this purpose is available on the website. Persons of Indian origin desirous of tracing their roots in India would be required to fill up the prescribed application form and deposit it with the concerned Indian Mission/Post located in the country of their residence along with a fee of Rs.30,000 (Rupees Thirty Thousand only) in equivalent US \$, Euro or any other foreign currency acceptable to the Indian Mission/Post. In case the attempt is not successful, the Indian Mission is authorized to refund Rs.20,000 to the applicant. For further details/information regarding the Scheme, the nearest Indian Embassy/High Commission/Consulate General may be contacted.

XI. PROBLEMS RELATING TO OVERSEAS INDIAN MARRIAGES

Issues related with desertion of Indian women by their overseas spouses are complex and sensitive. They also fall within the purview of private international law. The approach of the Ministry in addressing these issues is to create awareness amongst prospective brides and their families regarding their rights and responsibilities and the safeguards to be adopted while entering into matrimonial alliances with grooms residing overseas.

The Ministry has taken various proactive steps in this direction during the year 2011-12. Scheme

of providing legal/financial assistance to Indian women deserted by their overseas spouses, launched by the Ministry in 2007, has been revised with effect from 30th November, 2011 and its scope has been widened to include marriages solemnized in India or overseas, with an Indian or foreigner husband. Besides, the quantum of assistance under the scheme has been almost doubled. The scope of the scheme has also been liberalized to cover certain categories of Indian women married to overseas husbands who had not been included earlier.

The objective of the scheme is to provide financial assistance to needy women in distress due to being deserted/divorced by their overseas spouses, for getting access to counseling and legal services. The counseling and legal services are provided through credible Indian Women's Organisations/Indian Community Associations and NGOs empanelled with the Indian Missions/Posts abroad in the countries like USA,UK, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Bahrain and Qatar.

27 (Twenty seven) NGOs have been empanelled by the Indian Missions/Posts abroad to provide the assistance. A sum of Rs.80 lakhs approximately has been disbursed under the scheme till date to provide assistance to Indian women deserted/facing divorce proceedings in foreign countries.

MIGRATION MANAGEMENT

I. Highlights of 2012-13

The year 2012-13 has been an eventful and productive for the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs. We have made progress on several fronts - economic, social and cultural.

The highlights of the year in brief are -

- The scope of Indian Community Welfare Fund (ICWF) to meet the contingency expenditure incurred by these missions for carrying out welfare activities for overseas Indian citizens who are in distress has been expanded for the welfare of overseas Indians and the revised guidelines have been circulated on 17 September 2012. These include:
 - ‡ Providing the payment of penalties in respect of Indian nationals for illegal stay in the host country where prima facie the worker is not at fault;
 - ‡ Providing the payment of small fines/penalties for the release of Indian nationals in jail/detention centre;
 - ‡ Providing support to local Overseas Indian Associations to establish Overseas Indian Community Centers in countries that have population of Overseas Indians exceeding 1,00,000; and
 - ‡ Providing support to start and run overseas Indian Community-based student welfare centers in Countries that have more than 20,000 Indian students presence.
- The 5th Annual Consultation with the State Governments was held in New Delhi from 20-21 September, 2012 to discuss issues relating to Overseas Indians and emigration and how best the Ministry can partner with the state governments to provide the required support in effectively addressing the concerns of overseas Indians. The States were requested to strengthen the hand of MOIA in curbing irregular migration, launch regular publicity campaign to counter irregular migration and assist the Ministry by allocating space for the Migrant Resource Centre (MRC).
- The 7th Annual Conference of the Heads of Missions was attended by Head of Missions Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) Countries, as well as Angola, Iraq Jordan, Malaysia, Maldives and Yemen. It was held on 17 September, 2012 in New Delhi. The Conference was also attended by senior officials from the Ministry of External Affairs, the Ministry of Home Affairs and representatives from the major labour sending States such as Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Jammu & Kashmir, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, and Uttar Pradesh,
- The Ministry introduced a Pension and Life Insurance Fund scheme called "Mahatma Gandhi Pravasi Suraksha Yojana (MGPSY)", for the Overseas Indian workers having Emigration Check Required (ECR) passports. The scheme was launched on pilot basis at Kerala on 1 May 2012 and established the enrolment centers at Kerala in July 2012. The objective of the scheme is to encourage and enable such overseas Indian workers and by giving government contribution to save for their Return and Resettlement (R&R), save for their old age and obtain a Life Insurance cover against natural death during the period of coverage. It is planned to extend the scheme throughout India and in all ECR countries in a phased manner.
- On 2 July, 2012 a High level dialogue between India and European Union was held at New Delhi. The EU side was led by Mr. Stefano Manservigi, Director General, Home Affairs, European Commission and included representatives from the Presidency of the European Union, EU Member States, EU delegation and European External Action

service. The Indian side was led by Secretary, MOIA and included the representatives of the MOIA, MEA, MHA and India Center for Migration.

- The implementation of a comprehensive e-governance project on migration - E-Migrate is ongoing. It would result in significant improvement in the quality of services to emigrant workers since it would simplify different processes in the emigration cycle and improve effectiveness.

II. Legislative Reforms

The Ministry realizes that there is a need to redefine the scope of regulation, redesign the emigration process by setting standards and defining the roles and responsibilities of key stakeholders in the emigration process with the objective of making emigration an orderly economic process. There is a need to modernize the legislative framework as enshrined in the Emigration Act, 1983 and the Emigration Rules that governs emigration of Indians for overseas employment. It will facilitate legal migration, preventing irregular migration and empowerment of emigrants.

Ministry proposes to introduction of the Emigration Management Bill in the Parliament and to repeal the existing Emigration Act, 1983. The proposed Emigration Management Bill (EMB) embodies a paradigm shift in the management of emigration. Some of the salient features of the new Bill are:

- (a) The Bill provides for the registration of, and defines the functions, duties and rating of Recruiting Agencies, the accreditation of Foreign employers; data - capture of emigrants and students; the establishment of an Emigration Management Authority; protection and welfare of emigrants; and the punishment for human smuggling and other emigration offences etc.
- (b) Emigration Management Authority (EMA) - will replace the existing institutional framework of the Protector General of Emigrants assisted by several Protectors of Emigrants in the field. It will be an autonomous institution headed by a Chairman and will consist of two full time Members and one part-time Member. The Chairman and Members will be selected by a high level selection committee headed by the

Cabinet Secretary.

- (c) Regulation of all Recruiting Agencies: Under the 1983 Act only those Recruiting Agents fall within the purview of the Act who recruit low-skilled workers, while those who recruit high-skill workers and professionals remain outside the ambit of law. Under the new Bill, entire recruitment industry for overseas employment, irrespective of the nature of employment for which they recruit workers, will be regulated.
- (d) Accreditation of Employers in case of recruitment for notified countries: There is a provision under the existing act for the attestation of employment documents by Indian missions abroad. This has led to a tendency amongst Recruiting Agents to forge attestations. To address this issue, the proposed Bill seeks to replace the attestation system by a system of accreditation of employers who recruit emigrant workers in the low skilled category / workers holding passports that require emigration checks for certain countries (that have been notified by the Government) in which emigrants are at a particularly high risk of exploitation or abuse.
- (e) Automatic registration of Recruiting Agencies (RAs): Under the proposed Bill, the registration of RAs will be automatic so that there is no scope for discretion and malpractices in the registration process. For this purpose, an enabling provision has been made to empower the EMA to lay down minimum eligibility criteria for the registration of RAs. Further, the certificate of registration has to be issued by the EMA within a period not exceeding six months.
- (f) Duties and responsibilities of key players: Specific duties and responsibilities of the RAs and employers will be laid down.
- (g) Regulation of Enrolment Agencies: Agencies in the business of enrolment of citizens of India for studying at foreign educational institutions or providing consulting services for such enrolment will also have to register with the EMA in the same manner as the RAs with adaptations and modifications as appropriate.
- (h) Emigration Clearance to be replaced by registration of emigrants: With a view to facilitate emigration: and capture data relating to all categories of emigrants to avoid malpractices, every citizen of India leaving the

country for overseas employment will be required to register with the Authority before his departure. Similarly, every student leaving the country for studies at a foreign educational institution will intimate his particulars to the Authority before his departure by filling an online form.

- (i) Blacklisting of employers: Under the existing Act, there is no provision to debar unscrupulous employers who indulge in the exploitation of high-skill emigrants. To address this, the proposed Bill has a provision for the blacklisting of such employers with a view to debarring them from future recruitments from India.
- (j) Sub-Agents: Under the existing law the RAs are not permitted to employ sub-agents. However, in reality thousands of sub-agents are regularly employed by RAs to assist them in recruiting workers from the remote villages and towns of the country. Due to the prohibition on employment of sub-agents, there is little scope for improving their functioning and subjecting them to any standards. The proposed Bill addresses this by allowing the RAs to engage sub-agent subject to compliance of certain standards.
- (k) Performance Standards and rating: The proposed Bill seeks to enable the recruitment market to encourage ethical recruitment practices and eliminate unethical practices. For this purpose, the new Bill provides for laying down performance standards, regular performance monitoring and periodical rating of RAs and employers. Poor ratings will lead to the cancellation of the registration certificate of RAs and the cancellation of the accreditation of employers. The ratings will be placed in the public domain to empower the society and the potential emigrants to marginalize unethical recruiters.
- (l) Enabling provisions for welfare and other schemes and bilateral MoUs: Under the proposed Bill enabling provisions have been made for formulating welfare schemes and insurance schemes, skill upgradation, pre-departure orientation etc. An enabling provision has also been made for the smooth implementation of bilateral labour MoUs, international treaties etc.
- (m) Penal provisions: Penal provisions have been strengthened in the proposed Bill. A new

chapter has been added for the prevention of human smuggling and exploitation of emigrants. Specific provisions have been made criminalizing the production or possession of fake and fraudulent travel and other documents with a view to curbing illegal emigration and human smuggling. The maximum penalty has been enhanced from two years to five years' imprisonment. The quantum of fine has also been enhanced from Rs. 2,000 to 1,00,000 rupees. In the case of the exploitation of women and minors, a punishment of not less than five years' imprisonment and fine not less than Rs. 1 lakh has been provided.

- (n) Creation of a Grievance Redressal Authority: A new provision has been added for the appointment of a Grievance Redressal Authority who shall hear grievances arising out of recruitment, emigration and overseas employment under this Act. The Grievance Redressal Authority shall hear and dispose of complaints within a specified time and its orders shall be binding.
- (o) Compatibility with the e-Governance Project: The provisions of the proposed Bill is so drafted that it supports and is aligned to e-Governance processes.

Thus, the proposed Bill will modernize the legislative framework governing emigration, facilitate legal emigration, discourage irregular migration, enhance protection and welfare of emigrants, encourage ethical recruitment practices, enable market-friendly regulation of recruiters and provide for more deterrent penalties against crime such as human smuggling.

The Ministry has done away with the requirement of "ECR Suspension" to enable ECR passport holders to travel on visit visa without obtaining any clearance from the POE. This has eliminated a major avenue for rent seeking and harassment in the system.

The Ministry has also liberalized the emigration system by restricting the application of the emigration process only to those possessing educational qualification below Class-X (ECR passport) and those going for work to only 17 countries (ECR countries). All the remaining countries have been notified as Emigration Check Not Required (ECNR) countries.

III. E-Governance in Emigration (eMigrate) Project:

The Ministry is implementing a comprehensive e-governance project on migration. The e-Migrate Project aims to transform emigration into a simple, transparent, orderly and humane process. The Project is aimed at improving the quality of services to emigrant workers and help reduce, to a great extent, corruption, malpractices and irregular migration and thereby facilitate legal and orderly migration.

After eMigrate system is launched; employers in ECR countries will find an easy, fast and transparent way of conducting recruitments from India, their Recruiting Agents in India will interact with the Ministry in a fully electronic mode, Protector General of Emigrants and Protector(s) of Emigrants will record their decisions on the system, Immigration Counters will verify emigrants' data from eMigrate system electronically without the need for any sticker on passport, Indian Missions will interact with employers as well as PGoE/PoEs electronically so as to make emigration experience smooth and safe for emigrants.



eMigrate Project design has specifically provided for data exchange with other systems such as Passport Seva Project of MEA and IVFRT Project of MHA. This is based on a well-established premise that a fully electronic mode of data exchange is more effective in avoiding delay, tampering, and leakage in data transfer as compared to manual mode. The three ministries, MHA, MEA and MOIA, play a key role in regulating the mobility of Indian emigrants. Thus, it is quite logical to integrate the respective systems in order to facilitate seamless information and data flow among the three Ministries. This is to a great extent reduce information gaps and greatly improve regulation of emigrant mobility.

MOIA is targeting to complete the Project implementation work by June 2013 and then roll out e-Migrate system for use of emigrants, employers, Recruiting Agents and concerned government departments.

IV. Bilateral Memoranda of Understanding on Labour

India had signed labour Memoranda of Understandings (MOUs) with Jordan and Qatar in 1980s. However, no further progress was made in this direction for many years. The Ministry, after its creation in 2004, has therefore made concerted efforts to enter into bilateral MoUs with all the major destination countries to enlist the commitment of the host governments to ensure better protection and welfare of Indian emigrants. The MoU with the UAE was signed in December, 2006; with Qatar in April 2007; with Kuwait in April, 2007; with Oman in November 2008, with Malaysia in January 2009 and with Bahrain in June 2009. An Additional Protocol to the existing Labour Agreement between India and Qatar was signed on 20th November, 2007. The revised MOU on labour was signed with the UAE in September, 2011. The following broad principles have been built into these MoUs:

- (i) Declaration of mutual intent to enhance employment opportunities and for bilateral cooperation in protection and welfare of workers.
- (ii) Host Country to take measures for protection and welfare of the workers in organized sector.
- (iii) Statement of the broad procedure that the foreign employer shall follow to recruit Indian workers.
- (iv) The recruitment and terms of employment to be in conformity of the laws of both the Countries.
- (v) A Joint Working Group (JWG) to be constituted to ensure implementation of the MoU and to meet regularly to find solutions to bilateral labour problems.

Efforts are underway to sign MoUs with Jordan, Yemen and Saudi Arabia.

Regular meetings of JWG are important for resolving bilateral labour issues arising from time to time and also monitoring the implementation of the MOU. The JWG serves as a platform to deal with a variety of issues such as model contract, minimum wages, documentation, redress of labour disputes, retention of passports by employers, substitution of contracts, dealing

with recalcitrant employers, solutions to problems of exploitation and abuse of workers, regulation of intermediaries, sharing of experience in manpower deployment, exchange of information on legislative and administrative measures and exchange of labour market information etc. One of the success stories of the JWG has been the resolution of the work contract format problem with Kuwait. Similarly, a model labour contract is being finalized by the Indo- Malaysia JWG. The first round of JWG meetings has been held with all the countries with which Labour MOUs have been signed. This has been followed by 2nd and 3rd round of JWG with Kuwait in February, 2010 and January, 2012 in a very cordial atmosphere. JWG meeting was also held with Malaysia in December, 2011. The JWG meeting was also held with Oman in September, 2012.

V. Indian Community Welfare Fund (ICWF)

Overseas Indian Workers are estimated at over 6 million, with a net outflow of about a million each year, excluding returnees. A significant number of them are women. The vast majority of these workers are temporary migrants and 90 percent of them work in the Gulf. The framework for their protection and welfare needs to be institutionalized with emphasis on delivery of innovative, financially sustainable social security and support services to the vulnerable emigrant workers and those in distress. Overseas Indian workers face a number of risks. The nature of risks include high costs of migration, non/delayed/under payment of salaries, poor living and working conditions, physical abuse, fraudulent recruitment practices, difficulties in resettlement on return, financial insecurity, and vulnerability against emergencies.

The scope of the ICWF has been expanded in September 2012, in consultation with the Indian missions, to further provide for welfare of the Overseas Indian Citizens in distress. The revised Indian Community Welfare Fund (ICWF) Scheme provides the following services on a means-tested basis in the most deserving cases:

- (i) Boarding and lodging for distressed Overseas Indian workers in Household / domestic sectors and unskilled labourers;
- (ii) Extending emergency medical care to the Overseas Indians in need;

- (iii) Providing air passage to stranded Overseas Indians in need;
- (iv) Providing initial legal assistance to the Overseas Indians in deserving cases;
- (v) Expenditure on incidentals and for airlifting the mortal remains to India or local cremation/burial of the deceased Overseas Indians in such cases where the sponsor is unable or unwilling to do so as per the contract and the family is unable to meet the cost;
- (vi) Providing the payment of penalties in respect of Indian nationals for illegal stay in the host country where prima facie the worker is not at fault;
- (vii) Providing the payment of small fines/ penalties for the release of Indian nationals in jail/detention centre;
- (viii) Providing support to local Overseas Indian Associations to establish Overseas Indian Community Centers in countries that have population of Overseas Indians exceeding 1,00,000; and
- (ix) Providing support to start and run overseas Indian Community-based student welfare centers in Countries that have more than 20,000 Indian students presence.

So far, over 28,421 overseas Indians benefited from ICWF and an amount of Rs. 37,38,29.447 has been spent. The scheme has been extended to all Indian Missions across the globe. The Ministry has sanctioned an amount of AED 5.00 lakh equivalent to Rs. 70,42,000/- out of an estimated cost of AED 9.37 million of the Crematorium and Burial ground Projects in Sharjah. Similarly out of the total cost of the multipurpose centre and Crematorium in Ajman estimated at AED 6.00 million, the Ministry sanctioned AED 3.00 lakh equivalent to Rs. 42,25,000/-. The Ministry also sanctioned an amount of AED 7.5 lakh for the construction of an Auditorium and Social Centre at Umm-Al-Quwain, UAE out of a total estimated cost of AED 18.60 lakh.

VI. Mahatma Gandhi Pravasi Suraksha Yojana (MGPSY)

The Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs (MOIA) has introduced a Pension and Life Insurance Fund scheme called as "Mahatma Gandhi Pravasi



Suraksha Yojana (MGPSY)", for the Overseas Indian workers having Emigration Check Required (ECR) passports. The scheme was conceptualized and formulated on the basis of needs analysis followed by consultation with Indian Missions in the ECR countries, Department of Financial Services (DFS), the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA), and some of the leading financial institutions.

"Mahatma Gandhi Pravasi Suraksha Yojana (MGPSY)" is a specially designed social security scheme for the unskilled and semi-skilled Overseas Indian workers, with ECR passports and employed on temporary work permits across 17 ECR countries. The scheme was launched by this Ministry on a pilot-basis at Kerala on 1 May 2012 and enrolment centers were established at Kerala in July 2012.

The objective of the scheme is to encourage and enable such overseas Indian workers and by giving government contribution to (a) save for their return and resettlement, (b) save for their pension and (c) get a life insurance cover against natural death. The Government contribution available under the MGPSY is for a period of five years or till the return of subscribed worker back to India, whichever is earlier.

The main features of the scheme are:

1. Government contribution of Rs.1,000 per annum in line with Swavalamban platform for all MGPSY subscriber who save between Rs.1,000 and Rs.12,000 per year in NPS-Lite.
2. An additional government contribution of Rs.1,000 per annum by MOIA for the overseas Indian women workers who save between Rs.1,000 to Rs.12,000 per year in NPS-Lite.
3. A special government contribution of Rs.900 by MOIA towards Return and Resettlement



Sh. Vayalar Ravi, Minister of Overseas Indian Affairs lighting ceremonial lamp at the launch of pilot phase of Mahatma Gandhi Pravasi Suraksha Yojana (MGPSY) at Kochi on 1st May 2012

(R&R) of the overseas Indian workers who save Rs.4,000 or more per annum.

The "Pension" benefit under the scheme would be implemented using the PFRDA regulated NPS-Lite/Swavalamban platform; the "Return & Resettlement" savings benefit would be implemented using a Securities Exchange Board of India (SEBI) regulated UTI Asset Management Company Limited's UTI-MIS mutual fund platform; and the "Term Life Insurance" benefit would be implemented through the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority (IRDA) regulated Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) of India's Janashree Bima Yojana (JBY) platform.

The Ministry has appointed a Public Sector Bank (Bank of Baroda) as its Service Provider, and Banking Partner for the scheme. MGPSY is currently operational in Kerala and has been made available to all eligible subscribers (i.e. the ECR category workers either working in or leaving for employment to any of the 17 ECR countries) for enrolments.

Subscribers can visit the Enrolment Centres conveniently located in the POE offices, and at select branches of the Bank of Baroda, each in Thiruvananthapuram and Kochi. These enrolment centers have been fully operationalised. The information can also be obtained from the Overseas Workers Resource centre (OWRC)-operates a 24/7 toll free helpline (1800 11 3090).

Also, the Ministry has initiated the process of adding more service providers in order to start MGPSY enrolments. In this regard, two more public sector banks - State Bank of Travancore, and Indian Bank would be starting Service Provider operations in Kerala shortly. Bank of Baroda, the existing service provider would also be expanding its operations under MGPSY across the state shortly. The Ministry is also ready to introduce the Scheme in other States also.

The Ministry is currently in the process of reviewing the MGPSY Pilot performance and the outcomes so far. Based on the review feedback, the scheme would be enhanced and would subsequently be rolled out for full scale operations throughout the country and all the ECR countries in a phased manner.

VII. Information Dissemination On Legal Migration

One of the problems faced by the intending emigrants is difficulty in accessing authentic and timely information relating to overseas

employment, Recruiting Agencies and emigration procedures etc. Non-availability of such information makes the emigrants dependent on intermediaries and vulnerable to exploitation.

To overcome this difficulty, Ministry launched the **Overseas Workers Resource Centre (OWRC)** to provide information and assistance to intending emigrants, overseas workers as well as their family members relating to all aspects of overseas employment. The OWRC was inaugurated by the Prime Minister of India during the 6th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas in New Delhi in January, 2008. The OWRC is operating with a 24/7 toll free helpline (1800 11 3090) to provide need-based information to emigrants and their families. The workers can also access the helpline from anywhere in the world at 91-11-40503090. With a view to extend the services to support the Indian emigrants, an international toll-free line (8 000 911 913) has been established, which is currently available for calls from UAE. The complaints or grievances received on the toll-free helpline are promptly attended to and feedback provided to the complainant. The helpline numbers are disseminated as a part of the multimedia awareness campaign organised by the Ministry. During the calendar year, a total number of 43,569 calls were received.

The Ministry has also set up Migrant Resource Centre, (MRC) at Kochi in Kerala, Hyderabad in Andhra Pradesh and Panchkula in Haryana. The MRC performs functions similar to that of OWRC. The Ministry intends to replicate the MRC model in other states as well. Ministry regularly carries out multi-media awareness campaigns for educating the emigrants about emigration procedures, the pitfalls of illegal emigration and the precautions to be taken during recruitment and overseas employment.

The OWRC centre also trained the personnel from different MRC's to make them understand and learn the functioning of the Call Flow System which helped the emigrants to utilize knowledge in the best possible manner.

The scope of work of the OWRC Helpline has been enhanced to provide walk in counseling, development of interactive web-site, namely, www.owrc.in with effect from 31 December, 2010. Complaints can also be lodged through the OWRC website and via mail. The centre has been integrated with MRCs at Kochi and Hyderabad.

VIII. Consultation Meeting With State Governments

The 5th Annual Consultation with State Governments was held in New Delhi from 20-21 September, 2012 to discuss issues relating to Overseas Indians and emigration and how best the Ministry could partner with state governments to provide the necessary support in effectively addressing the concerns of Overseas Indians. The major recommendations of the Consultation Meeting are developing further synergy between the States and MOIA in curbing irregular migration, launching regular publicity campaign to counter the menace of irregular migration, extending skill initiative project in all states, assist the Ministry in allocating space for the Migrant Resource Centre (MRC), mapping high risk area in states based on data and trends, and developing a model law for tackling irregular migration. India Development Foundation is to identify state specific development needs across sectors. India Center for Migration is to coordinate states efforts on skill gap/labour market analysis leading to identification of key sectors for skilling for overseas employment.

A number of suggestions emerged from the State consultation meeting on the issue of OCI cards, welfare of workers etc. Some of the recommendations were regarding verification of visa in Arabic, single document for entry into India by OCI card holders; participation of States in Mini PBD etc. The Ministry is examining the recommendations for their implementation.

IX. Annual Conference of The Heads Of Missions

The 7th Annual Conference of the Heads of Missions of GCC Countries, as well as Jordan, Yemen, Malaysia, Maldives, Nigeria, Tanzania, Kenya, South Africa and Iraq was held on 17 September, 2012 in New Delhi. The Conference was attended by Heads of Missions of 15 countries, senior Officials from other Ministries including the Ministry of External Affairs, Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Labour & Employment and representatives from the major labour-sending States such as Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Karnataka, Kerala, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh. The broad recommendations of the 6th HOM Conference are such as giving discretion to Heads of Mission under ICWF for extending the stay of house maids in shelter homes for more



Shri Vayalar Ravi, Minister of Overseas Indian Affairs and Smt. Preneet Kaur, Minister of State External Affairs during the inaugural session of 7th Annual Conference of Heads of Mission on 17th September 2012.

than 30 days, preparing detailed guidelines for the ICWF, pursuing with the Government of Jordan, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Maldives for signing of MOU on manpower etc.

In the conference various suggestions about extending the facilities from the Indian Community Welfare Fund (ICWF), age relaxation etc. for the women migrant workers, universal attestation of documents, Mahatma Gandhi Pravasi Suraksha Yojna etc. were given. The same are under active consideration of the Ministry.

X. Human Resources Mobility Partnership (HRMP)

India is fast emerging as a country of destination on account of its rapid economic growth and investments from overseas. In fact, India's strength in terms of her young and highly skilled workforce is widely acknowledged.

India's strength in terms of availability of young and highly skilled workforce is widely acknowledged. This strength can be leveraged by countries of destination to meet their labour and skill shortages. Labour mobility is the only long term solution for sustaining global growth rates in the face of factors like demographic asymmetry and globalization of economies. A Human Resources Mobility Partnership can lay down an effective framework for bilateral cooperation for maximizing benefits from labour mobility and minimizing its risks. It can also effectively address the concerns of the countries of destination such as irregular migration and integration problems. It provides an opportunity to both partners to jointly develop and implement good practices in labour migration.

It is important to position international labour mobility as a win-win for the countries of origin, the countries of destination and the migrant workers. It is in this context that the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs is taking steps to build human resources mobility partnerships with key countries of destination in the European Union. Such a mobility partnership has been signed with Denmark. The Ministry has initiated the process for negotiating human resources mobility partnership agreements with The Netherlands, Australia, France, Poland, The Czech Republic, Norway, Switzerland, Hungary, Sweden, Belgium, Romania, Mauritius and European Union.

As India and the EU countries have complementary needs, the proposed Human Resources Mobility Partnerships will immensely help both sides. It will also provide a model that could be replicated elsewhere. The social security agreements that the Ministry is pursuing with the EU countries provide excellent support to the Human Resources Mobility Partnerships by protecting the workers against dual contribution for social security and loss of contributions. In fact, the two agreements together would pave the way for a lasting and mutually rewarding relationship between India and the EU Member States in the arena of international labour migration.

XI. Bilateral Social Security Agreements (SSA)

Most countries have an umbrella social security system mandated by law. It is funded through a mandatory social security tax collected from all workers and their employers (in a prescribed ratio). The system provides multiple benefits like old age pension, disability insurance, health insurance and unemployment insurance. Typically, the contribution is in the form of a fixed percentage of income subject to a maximum lumpsum limit. All expatriate workers are also required to pay social security tax as per the law of that country. India has similar mandatory social security coverage for all establishments that employ more than 20 employees. All employers and employees in such establishments or any of the establishments notified as one amongst the list of 187 types of establishments under the Employees Provident Fund Act, 1952 are required to make mandatory contributions (in a prescribed ratio) towards social security.

Professionals are mostly posted (detached) to destination countries by their employers. While they continue to make social security contribution in the home country, as per the local laws, they are compelled to pay social security tax in the host country too, leading to double contribution. Expatriate workers (whether detached or otherwise) often do not get any benefit from the social security contribution paid abroad on their return home on completion of the term of contract because most countries do not allow export of social security benefits. Often the host countries have a minimum contribution period under their law and so the worker does not qualify to receive social security benefits if he stays and pays in the host country for a lesser period, thereby losing the entire contribution. Another disadvantage is that due to the high rate of social security tax, double taxation erodes the competitive edge of companies on both sides.



Shri Vayalar Ravi, Minister of Overseas Indian Affairs and Mr. Paulo Portas, Minister of State and of the Foreign Affairs, Portugal exchanging copies of Social Security Agreement signed between India and Portugal on 4th March, 2013 at New Delhi

Bilateral Social Security Agreements (SSAs) can, on a reciprocal basis, protect the interests of such workers by exempting the posted workers from social security contribution under the host country legislation for a certain period of time (provided the worker continues to pay his contribution under the home country system during the period of detachment) and by providing for portability of pension in case of those who have to contribute under the host country legislation. In order to prevent loss of contribution on account of the minimum contribution period, the SSAs provide for totalization of contribution periods covered under the two legislations. Such agreements also make companies of both contracting States more competitive, as an exemption from social security contributions in respect of their employees substantially reduces costs.

The Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs has signed bilateral Social Security Agreements with Belgium, France, Germany (Social Insurance), Switzerland, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Hungary, Denmark, the Czech Republic, Republic of Korea, Germany (comprehensive SSA) and Norway. During the year 2012-13, such agreements were signed with Finland, Canada, Japan, Sweden, Austria and Portugal. An Understanding on Social Security has been

finalized with Quebec, Canada. These agreements provide for the following benefits to professionals, skilled workers and corporates on reciprocal basis:

1. Those posted for upto sixty months (except 24 months in case of Sweden) will be exempted from social security contributions under the host country law provided they continue to make social security payments in the home country.
2. Those who contribute under the host country law will be entitled to the export of the social security benefits should they relocate to the home country or a third country on completion of their contract or on retirement.
3. These benefits will also be available to workers posted by an employer of the home country to the host country from a third country.
4. Periods of employment in both the countries will be totalized in order to determine the eligibility for pension.
5. Corporates in both countries will become more competitive as avoidance of double payment of social security substantially reduces costs.

Negotiations are in progress with Italy, Spain, Russia and Australia. Two rounds of exploratory talks have been held with the USA and the matter is being pursued with USA as well as UK.

XII. India Center for Migration (ICM)

Indian Council of Overseas Employment has been renamed as India Center for Migration. The rapidly globalizing world characterized by competition amongst the labour sending countries for optimizing benefits from international labour migration. There is a need to bring a strategic dimension to the process of emigration of Indians in search of employment and to forge partnerships that will best serve India as a supplier of skilled and trained manpower and meet the expectations of the Overseas Indian Workers (OIW) as a significant constituency across the world.

In order to make Indian workers globally competitive there was an urgent need for a proactive national body to lead the following key interventions:

- (i) Commission studies on the International labour markets and identify emerging overseas employment opportunities for the Indian youth.
- (ii) Positioning of potential Overseas Indian Workers as "consumers" of employment services provided by the private recruitment industry.
- (iii) Projecting India as a supplier of skilled, trained and qualified workers.
- (iv) Adapting training material developed by ILO/ IOM for specific States/country and gender.

The Ministry has therefore established the "Indian Council of Overseas Employment", as a Society under the Societies Registration Act of 1860 which has been rechristened as "India Center for Migration". The Center is a two-tier body comprising a Governing Council and an Executive Directorate. The Governing Council is headed by Secretary, MOIA and comprises experts, state Government nominees and central government nominees. It provides the broad policy framework for the programmes and activities of the Center in consonance with its objectives. The day-to-day management of the Center is vested in the Executive Directorate. The Executive Director is the Chief Executive Officer of the Center.

The Center will perform the following broad functions:

- (i) Build and maintain a database on emerging country/sector specific employment opportunities abroad.
- (ii) Identify labour supply gaps in overseas labour markets and the skill sets required by Indian workers to fill those gaps.
- (iii) Initiate programs for skill development and skill upgradation in consultation with

professional bodies and the private sector and promote employment opportunities abroad.

- (iv) Initiate pre-departure orientation programmes for various categories of workers.
- (v) Coordinate with other employment promotion agencies, including the state manpower development corporations, project manpower suppliers and foreign employers.
- (vi) Initiate and support the study, monitoring and analysis of the trends and dynamics of international labour market, problems faced by the emigrant Indian workers in India and abroad, benchmark the best practices of other labour sending countries and recommend policy initiatives/strategies.

The Centre is functioning at 'arms-length' from Government and have the autonomy and flexibility to build strong public-private partnerships, engage proactively in capacity building across stakeholders and best implement well calibrated strategies for better market access for Indian workers to benefit from overseas employment opportunities in the medium to long-term.

The Centre had signed an MoU with the European University Institute (EUI) for Research on Migration of between the EU and India. Workshops on promoting safe & legal migration and women migration have been held under the on-going India-EU Project. A comprehensive awareness campaign in the State of Punjab is proposed to be conducted. The Centre was recently awarded a second project from the EU.

The Centre also plans to work with other organizations such as the IOM on Migration Management, with ILO on labor market information and protection, and with UN Women on addressing issues concerning women migrants. Earlier, ICM also launched Senior Fellowship & Research Internship Programmes to encourage research on migration of Indians. Apart from these projects, the Centre also oversees establishment of the Migrant Resource Centres. It also has research interests in areas such as dalits & migration abroad.

The Centre has also launched a Skill Development Initiative for Potential Migrants from the North-Eastern States of India in August 2011. The Ministry is the principal anchor of this project. Under the project international vocational qualifications (IVQs) have been developed with focus on short, relevant and effective modules that

will help potential migrants in the overseas job markets. The IVQs hospitality, healthcare and education sectors, training 10,000 youth including women through franchisee and university embedded models. Both models will use standard training, testing and certification to increase the effectiveness of the proposed framework. This internationally recognised certification will ensure that trainees are employable anywhere in the world. A Skill Training Certification Resource Centre (STCRC) has been established and training is already underway in the North-East through identified vocational training centres and academic institutions.

The workshop on "Women and International Migration- Opportunities and Challenges" organised by the Centre on 13th December 2012 under the India-EU Project brought a holistic insight to the study of women and international migration by identifying knowledge gaps and to draw concrete policy recommendations. It also provided an opportunity to deliberate on how key interventions have played out in the past, identify empirical based policy-oriented research directions that should be taken and interventions needed in the future. The event was attended by a wide gamut of stakeholders- Academics, Policy makers at the state and all-India level, representatives from EU head office, Civil society representatives from India and autonomous institutions involved in advocacy of health rights, human rights, worker's rights and migrant rights.

XIII. Web based Attestation Procedure for Employment Contract in Respect of ECR Category Workers in UAE

The Government of UAE and the Government of India have jointly envisaged a common system of documentation validation through a web-based attestation procedure. This system shall enable foreign employers to file their manpower requirements online, without visiting the Indian Missions and the information provided online shall also be available for viewing to the Government of UAE.

The web-based attestation will enable the Indian Embassy, Abu Dhabi, CGI, Dubai employers in UAE, the Protector General of Emigrants (PGE) and the Protector of Emigrants (POE) to have access to the database through authorized user IDs and passwords.

The attestation procedure will include registration of employers, online filling of demands, online receipt of documents from Indian Missions, filling up to details of employees selected, and finally emigration clearance by the POE. The procedures will not only provide employer data, verification of attestation by the POE, implementation of a model employee contract, but also provide a system of grievance redress and resolution of labour disputes.

A protocol in this regard was signed between Ministry of Labour, UAE and MOIA at Abu Dhabi on 4 April, 2012.

PROTECTOR GENERAL OF EMIGRANTS

I. OPERATIONAL FRAMEWORK

Operational matters relating to emigration, the provision of emigration services to emigrants and the enforcement of the Emigration Act, 1983 are under the Protector General of Emigrants (PGE). The PGE is the statutory authority under the Emigration Act and responsible for the welfare and protection of emigrant workers. He also oversees the nine field offices of the Protector of Emigrants (POE), listed in Annexure B.

The Emigration Act, 1983, which came into effect from 30th December, 1983 embodies the guidelines enunciated by the Supreme Court of India in its judgement and order dated 20-03-1979 (Kanga Vs. Union of India and Others) and provides a regulatory framework in respect of emigration of Indian workers for overseas employment and seeks to safeguard their interests, and ensure their protection and welfare. The Act provides for:

1. Duties of Protectors of Emigrants	- Sections 3 and 4
2. Regulation of Recruiting Agents	- Sections 9-14
3. Direct recruitment by employment	- Section 15-21
4. Emigration Clearance Process	- Section 22
5. Emigration offences and penalties	- Section 24-26
6. Power to exempt certain countries or employers from provisions of the Emigration Act	- Section 41

Procedural safeguards have been provided under the law for protection of emigrants. The Act

regulates recruitment for overseas employment and departure of the intending emigrants from India. It provides for penalties against offences.

II REGISTRATION OF RECRUITING AGENTS AND RECRUITMENT PROCESSES

The Emigration Act, 1983 (Section 10) requires that those who wish to recruit Indian citizens for employment abroad shall register themselves with the PGE. The fee prescribed under Rule 7(2) for registration is Rs.25, 000/-. Initially, the Registration Certificate (RC) is valid for a period of five years.

The form for applying for registration as Recruiting Agent can be obtained, free of charge from the Office of the PGE and can also be downloaded from the website www.moia.gov.in. The applicant is required to deposit Bank Guarantee for an amount of Rs.20 lakh on being found eligible for grant of RC.

The registration of Recruiting Agents under the Emigration Act, 1983, commenced from January, 1984, and as on 31 December, 2012, there **are 1439 Recruiting Agents with valid RC**. This figure includes seven State Manpower Export Corporations established in the State of Haryana, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Tamil Nadu, Rajasthan and Punjab.

While majority of recruitments are done through registered Recruiting Agents, employment can also be done by an employer directly by obtaining a Permit from the Competent Authority as per provisions under Section 16 of the Emigration Act, 1983. Foreign Employer can also recruit workers from India for a specific project through Project Exporter. The PGE has been empowered by the Central

Government to function as a Registering Authority to regulate the recruitment through recruiting agents and also as Competent Authority to regulate direct recruitment by employers.

III. EMIGRATION CLEARANCE

Section 22 of the Emigration Act, 1983, provides that no citizen of India shall emigrate for any work falling under Section 2(1)(o), unless he obtains emigration clearance from the Protector of Emigrants. Emigration Check Required (ECR) passport holders, that is those having educational qualification below matriculation, emigrating for employment to any of the 17 ECR countries, have to obtain emigration clearance from any of the POE offices. The 17 Emigration Check required countries are Afghanistan, Bahrain, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Malaysia, Oman, Qatar, Sudan, Syria, Thailand, United Arab of Emirates (UAE) and Yemen.

Broadly speaking, any person who has passed class X is entitled to an Emigration Check Not Required (ECNR) passport. An ECNR passport holder does not need any emigration clearance for going to "any" country. 13 categories of persons have been exempted from the requirement of Emigration Check Not Required (**Annexure C**). Further, even those holding ECR passport (bearing ECR stamp) are exempted from emigration check formalities while going to **175 countries**, which are termed as ECNR countries (**Annexure D**). The Recruiting Agents are required to obtain the Demand Letter, Power of Attorney and Specimen Employment Contract from the foreign employers in order to recruit workers and obtain emigration clearance for their departure. The specimen employment contract lays down the basic terms and conditions of employment including salary, accommodation, medical cover, transport, etc. In case of vulnerable categories of workers, i.e. unskilled labour and women emigrants, the employment documents are required to be pre-attested by the Indian Mission concerned. Insurance of the intending emigrant under the Pravasi Bharatiya Bima Yojna (PBBY) is compulsory for obtaining emigration clearance.

The emigration clearance to Libya and Yemen was suspended due to unfavorable condition prevailing there. Suspension of emigration clearance to Libya has been lifted, and for

safeguard and security of the emigrant workers guidelines have been issued to the Protectors of Emigrants **to get Life Insurance Policy for an amount of Rs. 20 lakhs.**

Regarding deployment of domestic workers to Kuwait an Advisory has been issued to all Protectors of Emigrants that before granting emigrating clearance they are to double check and ensure that persons having domestic work visas are actually willing to work at the residence of the sponsor and such persons are duly warned and sensitized that if they violate conditions of their visas, they will face problems of being jailed/deported etc.

IV. TRENDS IN EMIGRATION

There are about five million overseas Indian workers all over the world. More than 90% of these workers are in the Gulf countries and in South-East Asia. During 2012, 7,47,041 workers emigrated from India after obtaining emigration clearance. Out of this, 3,57,503 went to Saudi Arabia, 1,41,138 to UAE, 84,384 to Oman, 63,096 to Qatar, and 21,241 to Malaysia. States of Uttar Pradesh, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Tamil Nadu, Rajasthan and Punjab were the leading sourcing States in order of the numbers who emigrated from these States.

Major outflow of emigrant workers in the last few years from India has been to the Gulf countries where about four million workers are estimated to be employed. A vast majority of migrants to the Middle East, including Gulf countries are semi-skilled and unskilled workers and most of them are temporary migrants who return to India after expiry of their contractual employment. The number of emigration clearances granted by the eight offices of the Protector of Emigrants was 6,41,355 in 2010, in the year 2011 the figure was 6,26,565. One more office of Protector of Emigrant, Jaipur was inaugurated in January, 2012. The year 2012, registered an increase in the number of emigrants by about 28% as compared to the previous year i.e. 2011 (7.47 lakhs in comparison to 6.26 lakhs).

Employment for Indian workers abroad continues to hold a great potential. The number of workers who were given emigration clearance for contractual employment abroad during the last five years destination wise and State wise origin are given in Table A and B respectively.

V. ENFORCEMENT AND GRIEVANCE REDRESSAL

Complaints about exploitation of overseas Indian workers often pertain to non-payment/delayed payment of wages, unilateral changes in the contract of workers, changing the job arbitrarily etc. In extreme cases, the workers are not given any employment at all and are left in the lurch in the foreign country. Such workers, besides undergoing suffering, also become a liability to Indian Missions abroad.

In such instances, the PGE steps in and requests the concerned Recruiting Agent to get the workers repatriated at his expenses. If the Recruiting Agent fails to do so, action is taken to suspend/cancel his Registration Certificate and forfeit his Bank Guarantee.

Complaints against registered Recruiting Agents are enquired into with the help of POEs and the concerned Indian Missions. Complaint against un-registered agents are referred to the concerned State Governments for investigation for appropriate action as per provisions of the law of the land.

All State Governments and UT Administrations have been advised to instruct all Police Stations to keep a strict vigil on the activities of unscrupulous agents. Complaint against foreign employers are taken up with the Indian Missions and if need be the employer is blacklisted.

Prosecution sanctions were issued in 16 cases in 2012 based on police reports. It is relevant to mention here that prosecution sanction of the Central Government is not required if the complaint against the unregistered agent is made by an emigrant/intending emigrant or their family members or if such emigrant/intending emigrant is a member of a joint Hindu family, or by the manager of that family.

VI. SIMPLIFICATION OF PROCEDURES

- The Number of ECR countries was reduced to 17 with effect from 12 August 2008.
- Earlier, powers granted to POEs for bulk permission were very limited. This was liberalised in May, 2007. Now the Deputy Secretary level POEs in Delhi, Chennai and Mumbai have been delegated full powers for

granting permission without any limit on number of workers. Under Secretary level POEs in Hyderabad and Trivandrum have been delegated powers for permission upto 500 workers and Section Officer level POEs in Chandigarh, Cochin, Jaipur and Kolkata entrusted with powers upto 300 workers.

- From January, 2008, emigration Clearance Books (EC Books) had been issued to the Recruiting Agents through the offices of the POEs to keep a record of the emigration clearances of labour obtained by them.
- From January, 2008, applications for opening of Branch Office, change/shifting of office, change of Managing Director/Partner, under the Emigration Act are submitted by the Recruiting Agents to the office of the respective POEs with complete documents/information.
- The existing Emigration Rules, 1983 have been amended through the Emigration (Amendment) Rules, 2009 which have come into force with effect from July 9, 2009. Copies of the emigration Act and Rules thereof have been uploaded on the Ministry's website for information to general public and Recruiting Agents/intending Recruiting Agents.
- The qualification of 10+2 has been lowered to 10th standard for eligibility of ECNR Passports.
- Emigration Check Required Suspension (ECRS) has been abolished from 1 October, 2007.
- From 1st October, 2011, in order to make the system more transparent and accountable all applications are required to be filed on line with all essential documents in PDF form, for which an automatic acknowledgment is generated by the system.

VII. PROTECTION AND WELFARE OF EMIGRANTS:

1. India has signed Labour agreements with Jordan and Qatar in 1980s. The Ministry, after its creation in 2004, made concerted efforts to enter into bilateral Memoranda of Understanding (MoU) with all major receiving Countries to enlist the commitment of host countries to ensure better protection and welfare of Indian emigrants. MoU were signed with United Arab of Emigrates (UAE)

in December, 2006, with Kuwait in April, 2007, with Oman in November, 2008, with Malaysia in January, 2009, and with Bahrain in June, 2009. An Additional Protocol to the existing Labour Agreement between India and Qatar was signed in November, 2007. A revised MOU on labour was signed with UAE on September 13, 2011. Efforts are underway to sign MOUs with Maldives, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and Yemen.

- The following broad principles have been built into the MoUs:
 - i) Declaration of mutual intent to enhance employment opportunities and for bilateral cooperation in protection and welfare of workers.
 - ii) Host Country to take measures for protection and welfare of the workers in organised sector.
 - iii) Statement of the broad procedure that the foreign employer shall follow to recruit Indian workers.
 - iv) The recruitment and terms of employment to be in conformity with the laws of both the Countries.
 - v) A Joint Working Group (JWG) to be constituted to meet regularly to find

solutions to bilateral labour problems. The JWG serves as a platform to deal with a variety of issues, such as model contracts, minimum wages, documentation, redress of labour disputes etc. The JWG meetings were held in 2012 Kuwait (Jan., 2012), Malaysia (April 2012) and Oman (Sept. 2012).

2. A 24x7 toll-free helpline viz. Overseas Workers Resource Centre (OWRC) has been set up in Delhi to enable emigrants/ prospective emigrants to seek information and file complaints against Recruiting Agents/ Foreign Employers.
3. Migration Resource Centres (MRCs) at Cochin, Hyderabad and Panchkula (Haryana) have been set up which provide information to the intending migrants.
4. A vigorous campaign in the print and electronic media to educate potential emigrants including labourers and other vulnerable sections like women emigrants is regularly launched to propagate the benefits and hazards of legal and illegal migration respectively.
5. Computerization of all offices of the POEs for e-governance in emigration in a comprehensive manner.



Indian and Omani delegates at Joint Working Group Meeting on 11-12 September, 2012 at Mumbai

6. A comprehensive Insurance Scheme, viz. Pravasi Bharatiya Bima Yojana, 2006, is in place, which has further been upgraded from 1.4.2008.
7. An Indian Workers Resource Centre (IWRC) has been established at Dubai to serve as a one stop service outlet for addressing the information and assistance needs of emigrants.
8. Indian Community Welfare Fund (ICWF) has been established in all the Indian Missions for on-site welfare of emigrants. Over Rs. 37 crores have been spent to benefit over 28,000 Overseas Indians so far.
9. The MOIA coordinates with the State Government authorities, Ministry of Home Affairs and the Ministry of Civil Aviation for making necessary arrangements for transportation of the migrants in case of exigencies and, for ensuring their safe passage back to their respective homes.
10. Further, UAE amnesty scheme has been launched from 4th December, 2012 to 3rd February, 2013 for a period of two months.
11. New initiative like Open house meeting with the Recruiting Agents, and POEs conference were also taken up during the year.
12. During the international crisis/labour dispute in the ECR/ECNR countries the Indian evacuees have always been provided with various kinds of services free of cost, such as air lifting, food, medical assistance, shelter and emergency exit certificates. On arrival to India, these evacuees have been provided free transit accommodation and free domestic travel facilities as well through State governments.
13. ISO certification has already been obtained for the POE offices of Chennai, Delhi and Mumbai. Process has been initiated for obtaining ISO certification for the Offices of the POE Chandigarh, Cochin and Hyderabad.

VIII. Special measures for safety and protection of female workers particularly housemaids

- Age restriction of 30 years to all women emigrating on ECR passports to ECR countries.
- Minimum referral wage for emigrants (fixed by Mission)
- Security Deposit of US \$ 2500 per worker from the foreign employer.
- Compulsory attestation of employment documents for all women emigrants with ECR passport going to ECR countries.
- Mobile phone facility for Housemaids to be provided by the foreign employer.
- Operating shelters for distressed emigrants.
- Diplomatic initiatives with host countries to extend the protection of labour laws to the workers in the informal sector.

IX. REMITTANCES

The employment of Indian workers abroad helps earn foreign exchange and thereby adds to the foreign exchange reserves of the country. The private transfer of foreign exchange from the year 2001-02 onwards is given in the **Table C**. It may be observed that there has been a steady increase in remittances from US\$ 15.8 billion in 2001-02 to US\$ 70 billion in 2011-12. Country wise information on remittances is not available. However, it is estimated that a significant proportion of remittances is contributed by an increasing number of unskilled and semi-skilled Indian workers employed in the Gulf countries and Malaysia.

FINANCIAL SERVICES

ENGAGING THE GLOBAL INDIANS

The development potential of the considerable number of Overseas Indian community - expatriate Indians as also those born abroad - can be catalysed into action on ground across key sectors: Industry, Investment and Trade; Technological Innovation and Entrepreneurship; Skills Development; Social Sector Development and also in driving creativity in the fields of Arts and Culture. This would, however, require an appropriate policy environment conducive to 'enabling' their engagement and supported by an effective institutional framework to 'facilitate' such an engagement. Meeting these two imperatives will remain the 'necessary' conditions for a robust, sustained and mutually beneficial engagement; these do not, however, constitute a 'sufficient' condition. This has resulted in less than optimal outcomes for India as well as its overseas community. The Ministry has been conscious of this fact and has continuously tried to address the situation.

The Indian Diaspora shares a unique and strong bond with India, which in the economic sphere, is best exemplified through the remittances of Overseas Indians. India continues to lead globally in being the highest recipient of remittances. Due to the proactive investment policy of the Government, during 2009-10 to 2011-12, the total remittances received have reached to US\$168385 million. The Overseas Indian community continues to sustain its confidence in the home country. Where the share of remittances going for private consumption purposes has been the highest, Diaspora investments, though not a significant fraction, have largely been concentrated in land, property and securities.

According to the World Bank's Migration and Remittance Factbook 2011, remittances have contributed to almost 3.9 percent of India's GDP in the year 2009.

INVESTMENT BY NON-RESIDENT INDIANS

To facilitate and enhance the economic and intellectual engagement of the Diaspora with India, the Government of India is constantly taking measures to create opportunities for the Diaspora in India's development. The general policy and facilities for Foreign Direct Investment are applicable to NRIs as well. Government has extended additional facilities to NRIs, which include investments in the real-estate and civil aviation sectors up to 100 percent, besides a liberal investment regime on a non-repatriation basis. Besides various liberal deposits related facilities, an NRI may acquire any immovable property in India other than agricultural/ plantation/ farm house, and transfer any immovable property in India to a person resident in India and transfer any immovable property other than agricultural or plantation property or farm house to a person resident outside India who is a citizen of India or to a person of Indian origin resident outside India. Further, In the event of sale of immovable property other than agricultural land/farm house /plantation property in India by NRI or a PIO, the Authorized Dealer may allow repatriation of the sale proceeds outside India (for not more than two properties in case of sale of residential properties) provided certain conditions are satisfied.

Investment is promoted through dissemination of information on the investment climate and opportunities in India and by advising prospective investors, including NRIs, about the same. 'Invest India', a joint venture between the Department of

Industrial Policy & Promotion and Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) acts as a facilitator, for prospective overseas investors, including NRIs. An organisation called Overseas Indian Facilitation Centre (OIFC) has been set up jointly by this Ministry and Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), to provide information, specially to non resident Indians and persons of Indian origin, by organizing Investment and interactive Meets in different countries, and also during the Pravasi Bhartiya Divas (PBD) in India, and by replying to the queries of potential overseas investors on their electronic portal.

The total FDI inflows under automatic and approval route over the past five years, as reported by RBI, are as under:

Sl. No.	Financial Year	FDI Inflows (in US\$ million)
1.	2008-09	26732
2.	2009-10	22458
3.	2010-11	14939
4.	2011-12	23473
5.	2012-13 (April-Dec.2012)	13920

Major sectors in which FDI inflows made are Service, Metallurgical Industries, Construction Development, Information & Broadcasting, Chemicals and Textiles. Separate data on NRI investments is not maintained by RBI. However, the above data on NRI investments pertains to investment made by NRIs as individual investors, as reported by RBI. (Source: Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion SIA Newsletter and OIFC analysis).

It becomes imperative for the Ministry to not only facilitate innovative investment practices and policy initiatives but also to establish an institutional framework to expand the 27 million strong Indian Diaspora's economic engagement with India by investing its time, wealth and knowledge in 'Opportunity India' in order to maximize the long term economic returns emerging from the engagement. The focus of the Financial Services Division, therefore, is on the following:

- Facilitating ease of doing business in India without adding to transaction costs;
- Enabling the Overseas Indian investor to benefit from the opportunities in India by

facilitating appropriate advisory and handholding services through market-driven knowledge partners;

- Catalysing sustainable Business-to-Business (B-to-B) partnerships between Indian and Overseas Indian businesses.
- Enabling value addition to the investible knowledge, skills and expertise of Overseas Indians.

AWARENESS-CUM-PUBLICITY CAMPAIGN

The Ministry has been running an awareness campaign since 2007. The objectives of the campaign is to create wider awareness among the general public about the processes of legal immigration; cautioning people about illegal practices followed by fraudulent Recruiting Agencies; and, to provide Information to emigrants/intending emigrants to ensure legal, safe and orderly migration.

The awareness campaign is on the following issues:

- Problems faced by emigrant workers and legal emigration process;
- Problems relating to Indian housemaids overseas;
- Problems relating to NRI marriages; and,
- Overseas Workers Resource Centre (OWRC) Helpline (1800-11-3090)

The awareness campaign is necessary because the outflow of potential emigrants going overseas in search of jobs has substantially increased in the last five years. This is expected to increase further in the coming years as demand for Indian labour has been increasing.

During the year 2012-13, MOIA has run an awareness campaign through the following media:

1. Doordarshan
2. AIR (Prasar Bharati)
3. Lok Sabha TV
4. Private National as well as Regional Channels
5. National as well as Regional Dailies

The period of campaign was ranged for 45 to 60 days during this year. It aims to cover the complete length and breadth of the country. The number of potential migrants seeking information and clarification on the OWRC Helpline has increased

substantially since the awareness campaign was initiated.

PRIME MINISTER'S GLOBAL ADVISORY COUNCIL (PMGAC)

The Ministry has constituted the Prime Minister's Global Advisory Council of People of Indian Origin (PMGAC-OI) to draw upon the experience and knowledge of eminent people of Indian origin in diverse fields from across the world. The Council is chaired by the Prime Minister.

The functions of the Council are:

- (i) Serve as a platform for the Prime Minister to draw upon the experience, knowledge and wisdom of the best Indian minds wherever they may be based;
- (ii) Develop an inclusive agenda for a two-way engagement between India and Overseas Indians;
- (iii) Consider ways and means for accessing the skills and knowledge of the Indian Diaspora for meeting India's development goals and facilitating investments by Overseas Indians into India; and,
- (iv) Institution and capacity building in India to respond to the economic, social and cultural needs of the Overseas Indian community.

The advice of the Council is recommendatory in nature and serves as a valuable input for policy formulation and programme planning.

Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh presided over the fourth meeting of the Global Advisory Council of Overseas Indians on January 8, 2013 at Kochi, Kerala. Also present were Shri Vayalar Ravi, Minister of Overseas Indian Affairs, Shri Salman Khurshid, Minister of External Affairs, Shri Anand Sharma, Minister of Commerce and Industry, Shri Pallam Raju, Minister of Human Resource Development, Dr. Montek Singh Ahluwalia, Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission of India, and Shri T.K.A. Nair, Advisor to PM as special invitee besides Secretaries to the Government of India.

The Council meeting was attended by eminent Overseas Indians, including Lord Karan F. Bilimoria, Shri Swadesh Chatterjee, Ms. Ela Gandhi, Lord Khalid Hameed, Dr. Renu Khator, Prof. Kishore Mahbubani, Shri L.N. Mittal, Lord Bhikhu Chotalal Parekh, Dr. Sam Pitroda, Tan Sri Dato' Ajit Singh, Shri Neville Joseph Roach, Prof.

Srinivasa S.R. Varadhan and Shri Yusuffali M.A.

During the meeting, the participants exchanged view on key international issues and their implications for India, including the global economic situation, developments in West Asia and the Gulf region, energy security, and trends in the Asia Pacific region. The members also gave their perspectives on strengthening engagements between India and the Overseas Indians as well as between India and various countries in the bilateral sphere. Prime Minister thanked the members for their perspective and constructive suggestions. The Prime Minister further assured the Council that the Government would reflect on all the suggestions the Members had made and engage proactively with those ideas.

India Development Foundation of Overseas Indians

The India Development Foundation of Overseas Indians (IDF-OI) is a not for profit Trust established to serve as a credible institutional avenue to enable overseas Indians to engage in philanthropy to supplement India's social development efforts. The focus of the IDF-OI is to channel the philanthropic propensities and resources of the overseas Indian community into the key sectors of Health Care, Education, Empowerment of Women and Sustainable Livelihood especially water and rural energy.

IDF-OI aims to provide a transparent and effective platform for volunteering and social entrepreneurship besides committing financial resources.

The Trust has a two-tier structure comprising the Board of Governors and the Executive Directorate. The Foundation is chaired by the Hon'ble Minister of MOIA. The Executive Directorate works towards realizing the objectives of the Foundation.

The broad objectives of the Trust are to:

1. Lead overseas Indian philanthropy into India and facilitate partnerships through single window facilitation and by building philanthropic partnerships.
2. Establish and maintain a 'Social Capital and Philanthropy Network' on India that can provide a list of credible institutions, projects and programmes.

3. Function as a clearing house for all philanthropy related information on India.
4. Partner with and encourage credible philanthropic organizations in India to project social sector development opportunities to overseas Indians in the sectors that best match need based philanthropy.
5. Promote accountability and 'good practices' in Overseas Indian philanthropy.

IDF-OI is in the process of being registered as a not-for-profit charity in countries with a significant overseas Indian population, viz. the USA, Canada, the UK, Germany, Australia and in the GCC States. In India, IDF-OI has identified 09 states- Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Gujarat, Karnataka, Kerala, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal - for state level partnership, in the first phase.

At the backend, IDF-OI associates international, national and state level NGOs as well as state governments and local self government institutions like the Panchayati Raj, for effective implementation. Since projects are to be implemented by partner institutions, independent evaluation and feedback will be undertaken by IDF-OI to ensure transparency and performance.

Overseas Indian Facilitation Centre

The Ministry has set up an Overseas Indian Facilitation Centre (OIFC) as a not-for-profit trust in partnership with the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII). The Centre is a 'one-stop shop' and seeks to serve the interests of the Overseas Indian community and has the mandate to cover two broad areas viz: Investment Facilitation and Knowledge Networking.

The Centre has a five point mandate viz :

- (i) Promote Overseas Indian investments into India and facilitate business partnerships,;
- (ii) Establish and maintain a Diaspora Knowledge Network;
- (iii) Function as a clearing house for all investment related information ;
- (iv) Assist Indian States to project investment opportunities to Overseas Indians ;and,
- (v) Provide advisory services to PIOs and NRIs.

To achieve its mandate, OIFC's activities can be broadly divided into four categories:

- Dissemination of information in the public domain - through its i) business networking portal (www.oifc.in), which has updated information on the state-sector investment opportunities, trends, and economy overviews; ii) monthly e-newsletter - 'India Connect', which is theme specific and has state updates, success story, top news items; and, iii) research publications and reports.
- The portal has 6 lakh unique visitors, 15,000 registrations and 35,000+ newsletter subscribers.
- Outreach and Consulting - done in association with Diaspora associations and bilateral chambers of commerce from various parts of the world to reach the Diaspora membership and State Partners, which have a huge state specific Diaspora population in various countries.
- OIFC has six Associate Partners and eleven State Partners - Assam, Bihar, Gujarat, Haryana, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra, Odisha, Punjab and Rajasthan.
- Facilitation and Matchmaking - done through i) query addressal, both online and offline on various topics like - banking, market entry, taxation, real estate, Foreign Exchange Management Act (FEMA) etc. through OIFC's Ask-the-Expert and Live Chat facilities; ii) Diaspora engagement meets where opportunities of face-to-face connect between Global Indians, Senior representatives of the Government and Indian industry experts are provided; and, iii) OIFC Market Place at the Pravasi Bharatiya Divas in India, a showcase of investment opportunities of State Partners and services of Knowledge Partners from industry and pre-scheduled B2B meetings.
- OIFC has organized 22 diaspora meets and connected over 6700 overseas Indians to India. It has answered 10000 + queries.
- Management of Diaspora Knowledge Network - through a virtual platform for knowledge exchange called Global Indian Network of Knowledge (Global-INK) with the mission : To create a knowledge network by drawing on the knowledge and expertise of Global Indians, and of people with an affinity for India, who are outstanding in areas of Environment,

Healthcare, Innovation and Science & Technology, without relocating them. The key features of the platform include:

- Global-INK is an online secure platform managed by the OIFC and endorsed by the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs (MOIA), Government of India.
- The objective behind setting up Global-INK is to create a knowledge network by drawing on the knowledge and expertise of Global Indians, and of people with an affinity for India, who are outstanding in areas of Environment, Healthcare, Innovation and Science & Technology, without relocating them.
- Being a member of the network provides them an opportunity: to provide or seek advice, contacts, assistance and support in the focus sectors; to convert their ideas, research outputs into actions; to find research collaborators; and; to shape the future of India's knowledge economy.
- Membership of this network is by invitation only. Interested candidates can visit <https://www.globalink.in/> and request for membership.
- As on date, 43 Hospitals and Indian Medical Associations in India; 35 Indian Diaspora Associations, super-specialty organizations and alumni organizations whose members are Physicians of Indian origin; and 35 Doctors and Scientists of Indian Origin in Africa, USA and Europe, have been invited by the MOIA/OIFC to join this network.

Organisations such as Cardiological Society of India, Sankara Nethralaya, Endourological Society, Malpani Infertility Clinic, Neurological Society of India, Narayana Hrudayalaya Hospitals and Sankara Nethralaya have accepted the invite to join the Global-INK network.

The Centre, in its sixth endeavour at the annual Pravasi Bharatiya Divas 2012, carried out its activities for expanding the economic engagement of the Pravasi Bharatiya delegates with India, with a difference. OIFC's activities at the PBD such as: the Market Place Forum to build relationships between OIFC's Partner Indian States, Knowledge Experts in various domains and PBD delegates in a relaxed environment conducive for business discussions; publication for 'Now Returning

Indians'; service for addressal of queries of Pravasi Bharatiya delegates; OIFC interview survey for understanding the expectations and concerns of Overseas Indians; and, a stall of Global INK at the Market Place, bagged the attention of over 1,200 delegates.

In 2011, OIFC commissioned a survey to understand the expectations and concerns of Overseas Indians in their economic engagement with India. The survey was conducted by ICRA Management Consulting Services Ltd (iMaCS) and covered the regions of Singapore, UAE and USA, during November 2011. The key outcomes targeted were to get a clear understanding of the Indian diaspora's expectations and concerns, relating to their engagement with India and significant policy / procedural recommendations for strengthening the diaspora's economic engagement with India, which can then be put up for consideration to the Government of India. The survey is now in its second phase covering the regions of Africa, Europe and South East Asia.

OIFC caters to Non-Resident Indians, Persons of Indian Origin, PIO card holders and OCI card holders with emphasis on small & mid-sized entrepreneurs, Professionals and those wishing to engage economically with India.

The Centre, in its endeavor to strengthen the Diaspora's economic inter linkages with India, continues to seek to encourage the Overseas Indians to make use of its platform to connect with India. For more details OIFC's website www.oifc.in may be visited.

PRAVASI BHARATIYA KENDRA (PBK)

To commemorate the trials and tribulations as well as the subsequent evolution and achievements of the Indian Diaspora, it has been decided to establish a Pravasi Bharatiya Kendra (PBK) at Chankayapuri, New Delhi, at an estimated cost of Rs.79.19 crore. The National Building Construction Corporation has been appointed turnkey Consultant and Project Manager.

The Kendra, over time, is expected to become the focal point for interaction -social, cultural and economic- with and among all Overseas Indians. It will also serve as a research and documentation centre and host a permanent exhibition.

The Kendra would, among others, have the following facilities:

- i) A Library/Research Centre
- ii) Flexible capacity meeting rooms
- iii) An Indian Cultural Centre
- iv) A state of the art 500-seater auditorium
- v) A permanent exhibition space
- vi) Fully serviced guest rooms
- vii) Full-fledged Business Centres
- viii) A restaurant & adequate basement parking
- ix) 100 percent power back-up

The ground-breaking ceremony of the Pravasi Bharatiya Kendra by Hon'ble Minister of Overseas Indian Affairs was held on April 28, 2011. The construction work of building is at full swing.

ECONOMIC DIVISION

Economic Division has been mandated to provide economic and analytical inputs in policy matters pertaining to the Ministry and generate analytical and empirical research on migration related subjects and surveys. A proper ex-post facto evaluation of the schemes and programmes of the Ministry is also necessary to ensure that the resources earmarked for different purposes are optimally used and sufficient research material and data-base is generated to help improve policy. The Ministry is collaborating with a number of institutions and universities, both within and outside India, to help generate research on subjects such as migration and remittances. The Economic Division will also facilitate convergence and dovetailing of various research studies to ensure synergy. A data base of human resources at all levels, collating their potential and capabilities, has to be built for effective implementation of MOIA's mandate. The Economic Division will help facilitate this task.

PLAN SCHEME FOR SKILL DEVELOPMENT

The Plan Scheme "Swarnaprawas Yojana" has received 'in principle' approval of Planning Commission. The scheme aims to train 5 million youth over the next two Five Year Plans so that they are eligible for seeking overseas employment. Comments from all concerned Ministries have been received on the Draft Expenditure Finance Committee Note (EFC) for this scheme. This Scheme will be coordinated by the Economic Division.

ACADEMIC ENGAGEMENTS

MoU with Centre for Development Studies (CDS), Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala is in the seventh year of its research partnership with MOIA. A sum of

Rs.47 lakh was released in 2011-12 and Rs. 49.32 lakhs has been released in 2012-13 under this partnership.

The fourth India Migration Report i.e India Migration Report 2013 on the theme of 'Social Cost of Migration' was released during the Pravasi Bhartiya Divas (PBD) 2013 by the Hon'ble Minister for Overseas Indian Affairs.

In its new format, two new items of work have been included:

- (i) An Annual Seminar on Migration and Development: Under the Annual Seminar, two seminars have been organised by Research Unit on International Migration(RUIM), the first at Thiruvananthapuram on 26.3.2012 and the second at Ahmedabad on 23.11.2012 in collaboration with GIDR(Gujarat Institute of Development Research).
- (ii) A Journal on Migration and Development (2 issues in a year): The first issue of Journal on Migration and Development has been printed. This Journal covers various facets of International migration beyond the conventional lines such as Migration and Development Nexus particularly in China; Refugee Movement and Development with specific reference to Afghan refugees in Iran; Domination and Circular migration in India; Study of Ethnicity in the light of Xenophobic violence on migrants in South Africa and Mobility partnerships and future of European migration policy.

Following studies are currently underway:

- (i) Pilot study on Returnee Professionals.
- (ii) Costs and Choices Influencing International Student Migration from India.
- (iii) Wage Differentials between Indian Migrant workers in the Gulf and Non-migrant workers in India.

BUDGET AND FINANCIAL REVIEW

The Outcome Budget of the Ministry for the year 2012-13 was presented to Parliament in March 2012. The Budget Estimate of the Ministry for 2012-13 was Rs.114.77 crore. The detailed Budget allocation and Revised Estimates are given in **Table-D**. The Budget Estimate for the year 2013-14 has been approved at Rs.115.79 crore. The entire allocation of the Ministry is on the Non-Plan side. The Ministry operates three major heads of Expenditure as under:

2052	-	Secretariat General Services
2061	-	External Affairs
4059	-	Capital Outlay and Public Works

The focus of the Ministry during the year, as in previous years, was on three aspects:

- To contain administrative expenditure;
- To increase allocation for Programmes and Schemes to achieve the objectives of the Ministry; and,
- To maximize the productivity of expenditure on Schemes through partnerships

The broad trend in expenditure during the last five years are depicted in Bar Diagrams in Figures **A, B & C**.

MANAGEMENT SERVICES DIVISION

The Management Services Division provides support services to the Ministry and deals with matters pertaining to Human Resource Management, Infrastructure and logistics support, Parliamentary matters and coordination with various Divisions of the Ministry as well as other Ministries. This Division also exercises vigilance oversight and handles all vigilance cases involving officials working in the Ministry besides being responsible for implementation of the use of Official Language. This Division is to facilitate smooth and effective operation of the Ministry.

The POE Office at Jaipur was made functional in January 2012. During the year, POE office at Rae Bareilly has been set up and it is likely to be made functional soon. Efforts are on to make POE office at Guwahati functional too.

I. OVERSEAS INDIAN CENTERS

The Government sanctioned three posts of Counsellors, Community Affairs (**Development**) at the Indian Missions of Washington DC, Abu Dhabi and Kuala Lumpur as field organizations of MOIA in these countries. The Counsellor at Washington looks after the interests of the Overseas Indian Community in the USA; the Centre at Abu Dhabi covers the UAE while the Counsellor at Kuala Lumpur looks after Malaysia. The Counsellors are supported by professionals appointed locally to provide assistance in the field of health, legal and financial matters. The Counsellor at Washington is assisted by professional in the field of Legal assistance. The Ministry of External Affairs has posted an officer as Community Counsellor at the Indian High Commission at Kuala Lumpur. These centres are performing their assigned role of engaging with

the Overseas Indian Worker assistance /guidance with regard to issues such as health or legal and financial matters, as well as obtaining benefits from various schemes of the Ministry Based on the experience of these offices, the Ministry may consider setting up more Overseas Indian Centres.

II VIGILANCE FRAMEWORK

The Vigilance Wing of the Ministry is headed by a Chief Vigilance Officer (CVO) of the rank of Joint Secretary, who functions as the focal point for all vigilance matters in consultation with the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) and Investigation Agencies like Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI). Complaints on corruption and malpractices in the functioning of the Office of the Protector of Emigrants and the Recruiting Agents, received from the general public, are dealt with in a time-bound manner. In all cases, where CBI sought sanction for prosecution in respect of officials working under this Ministry and also all the Office of the Protector of Emigrants, the same has been duly conveyed within time. Wherever required, Regular Departmental Action (RDA) has also been initiated against employees.

The Ministry is implementing the guidelines/ instructions issued by the Department of Personnel & Training (DOP&T) and the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) on creating greater awareness of vigilance among the users. In order to bring about awareness about vigilance and transparency in the functioning of offices that have public interface, the **Vigilance Awareness Week was observed from 29th October, 2012 to 3rd November, 2012, starting with a pledge taking on 29th October, 2012. All the Office of the Protector of Emigrants observed the Vigilance Awareness Week in their respective offices on similar lines.**

With a view to bring about maximum transparency in the working of the Ministry through effective use of websites in discharge of regulatory enforcement, the Emigration Act and the Rules framed there under, downloadable forms, guidelines for registration, **status of Appeal filed under section 23 of the Emigration Act, 1983 etc** have been uploaded on the website. Information Technology is being effectively used in the Ministry.

There are several cases pertaining to employees working in the Offices of the Protector General of Emigrant registered by CBI and also by CVC, recommending either for sanction for prosecution under the Prevention of Corruption Act and Emigration Act, 1983 and also for initiating Regular Departmental Action (RDA) against the accused employees for major penalty. MOIA has taken action in a time bound manner, by suspending the accused officials and also charge sheeted by appointing Inquiry Authorities for initiating RDA proceedings. **The complaints received against alleged corrupt practices in the Offices of Protector of Emigrants are attended to promptly and such offices are inspected by sending a vigilance team.**

III PROGRESSIVE USE OF HINDI

Official Language Section of the Ministry has the nodal responsibility for effective implementation of the Official Language Act and Rules made

there under. Efforts were made to increase the use of Hindi in the Ministry during the period under report with the help of outsourcing, wherever necessary. Provisions of Section 3(3) of the Official Language Act, 1963 were complied with fully. All papers covered by these provisions were issued bilingually, i.e., in Hindi and English. Letters received in Hindi were replied to in Hindi in all cases.

The Ministry organized the "Hindi Pakhwara" from 10th to 21st September, 2012. During this period a Hindi work shop was organized for the officers/ employees including the outsourced staff to impart basic knowledge on writing notes and preparing drafts in Hindi on routine subjects. Competitions in Noting and Drafting in Hindi as well as Hindi Essay were organized and cash prizes and certificates were awarded to the winners of these competitions. The Officers and staff of the Ministry were also encouraged to use Hindi language in their communications.

IV RIGHT TO INFORMATION ACT (RTI)

For information under the RTI Act, 2005, citizens may approach the designated Public Information Officer (RTI) of Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs from 10:00 hrs to 13:00 hrs on any working day.

The following officers are designated as the Public Information Officer and Appellate Authority in respect of matters pertaining to the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs:

Matter	Public Information Officer	Appellate Authority
All matter relating to the office of Protector General of Emigrants and officers of Protectors of Emigrants	Director (Emigration Services)	Protector General of Emigrants
All matters relating to Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs, other than emigration related issues	Deputy Secretary (Administration)	Joint Secretary (Financial Services) & CVO

During the financial year 2012-2013 (up to 31st January, 2013), 283 applications were received and 11 applications were carried over from previous year. 73 were transferred to other concerned authorities, 207 were disposed off and 14 are in the process of disposal. During this period, 11 appeals were received, 9 have been disposed of and 2 are pending.

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ANNEXURE- A

FUNCTIONS OF THE MINISTRY OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS

1. All matters relating to Overseas Indians, comprising Persons of Indian Origin (PIO) and Non-Resident Indians (NRIs) excluding entries specifically allotted to other Departments.
2. All emigration under the Emigration Act, 1983 (31 of 1983) from India to overseas countries and the return of emigrants.
3. Matters relating to Pravasi Bharatiya Divas, Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Awards and Pravasi Bharatiya Kendra.
4. Matters relating to programmes in India for Overseas Indian Volunteers.
5. Setting up and administration of Centres for Overseas Indians' Affairs in countries with major concentrations of Overseas Indians in consultation & coordination with the Ministry of External Affairs.
6. Policy regarding employment assistance to PIO/NRIs excluding reservations in government service.
7. Collection and dissemination of information concerning admission of NRI/PIO students to various educational, technical and cultural institutions in India wherever discretionary quota for NRI/PIO students exists, in consultation with the Ministry of Human Resource Development and the Ministry of Culture.
8. Scholarship to NRI/PIO students for study in India under different schemes in consultation with the Ministry of External Affairs.
9. Development of marketing and communication strategies to ensure strong links between the Overseas Indian community and India.
10. Matters relating to NRI/PIO contributions to the Government and parental organisations in consultation with the Department of Economic Affairs.
11. Guidance to and cooperation with the State Governments and coordination with them on matters related to Overseas Indians.
12. To be represented at the Indian Council of Cultural Relations.
13. Establishment of institutions to impart vocational and technical training to meet the requirements of skilled manpower abroad with the concurrence of the Ministry of Labour and Employment.
14. External Publicity relating to Overseas Indians' affairs in consultation with the Ministry of External Affairs and in consonance with foreign policy objectives.
15. New initiatives for interaction by Overseas Indians with India in fields such as Trade, Culture, Tourism, Media, Youth Affairs, Health, Education, Science and Technology in consultation with the Ministries concerned.
16. Exercise of powers conferred by Section 7B (1) of the Citizenship Act, 1955 (57 of 1955).
17. Work relating to totalisation agreements, protection and welfare of Overseas Indians and exemption from payment of Social Security.
18. Promotion of investment by Overseas Indians in India, including innovative investments and policy initiatives consistent with overall government policies, particularly in areas such as exclusive Special Economic Zones (SEZs) for Overseas Indians.
19. To be represented on the Foreign Investment Promotion Board and the Foreign Investment Implementation Authority.
20. To interact with the Investment Commission and to be consulted by the said Commission and to be kept informed of all matters relating to Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) by Overseas Indians.

**Source: Government of India (Allocation of Business) Rules, 1961
as amended from time to time.**

ANNEXURE- B

OFFICES OF THE PROTECTORS OF EMIGRANTS (POES)

- 1. Office of the Protector of Emigrants**
Jaisalmer House, Canteen Block,
Mansingh Road,
New Delhi-110 011
Tel: 011 - 23382472
Fax: 011 - 23073908
Email: poedelhi@moia.nic.in
- 2. Office of the Protector of Emigrants**
Room No.18, A-Wing,
MSO Building, 3rd Floor, DF Block,
Salt Lake, Kolkata-700 084
Tel: 033 - 23343407
Fax: 033 - 23343407
Email: poekol@moia.nic.in
- 3. Office of the Protector of Emigrants**
5th Block, Ground Floor, Kendriya Sadan,
Sector-9A, Chandigarh-160 017
Tel: 0172 - 2741790
Fax: 0172 - 2741790
Email: poechn@moia.nic.in
- 4. Office of the Protector of Emigrants**
Building E, Khira Nagar, S.V. Road,
Santa Cruz (West), Mumbai-400 039
Tel: 022 - 26614393
Fax: 022 - 26614353
Email: poemumbai@yahoo.com
- 5. Office of the Protector of Emigrants**
Gruha Kalpa Building, M.J. Road,
Hyderabad - 500 001
Tel: 040 - 24652557
Fax: 040 - 24652557
Email: poehyd@gmail.com
- 6. Office of the Protector of Emigrants**
TNHB, Ashok Nagar,
Shopping Complex (Annexe),
Ashok Nagar, Chennai - 600 083
Tel: 044 - 24891337
Fax: 044 - 24891337
Email: poechennai1@yahoo.com
- 7. Office of the Protector of Emigrants**
Suganthi, TC 24/846(1), Thycaud,
Thiruvananthapuram - 695 014
Tel: 0471 - 2324835
Fax: 0471 - 2324835
Email: poetvm@gmail.com
- 8. Office of the Protector of Emigrants**
3rd Floor, Putherickal Building,
Market Road, Cochin - 682 035
Tel: 0484 - 2372040
Fax: 0484 - 2360187
Email: poechennai1@yahoo.com
Email: poecochoin@moia.nic.in
- 9. Office of the Protector of Emigrants**
CFC Building, RIICO,
Sitapura Industrial Area,
Tonk Road, Jaipur.
Tel: 0141-2771529
Fax: 0141-2771529

ANNEXURE- C

LIST OF PERSONS/CATEGORIES OF WORKERS IN WHOSE CASE EMIGRATION CHECK IS NOT REQUIRED (ECNR CATEGORIES)

1. All holders of Diplomatic/Official Passports.
2. All Gazetted Government servants.
3. All Income-tax payers (including agricultural income-tax payees) in their individual capacity.
4. All professional degree holders, such as Doctors holding MBBS degree or degrees in Ayurveda or Homoeopathy; Accredited Journalists; Engineers; Chartered Accountants; Lecturers; Teachers; Scientists; Advocates etc.
5. Spouses and dependent children of category of persons listed from (2) to (4).
6. Persons holding Class 10 qualification or higher degrees.
7. Seamen who are in possession of CDC or Sea Cadets, Desk Cadets (i) who have passed final examination of three year B. Sc. Nautical Sciences Courses at T.S. Chanakya, Mumbai; and (ii) who have undergone three months of pre-sea training at any of the Government approved training Institutes such as T.S. Chanakya, T.S. Rehman, T.S. Jawahar, MTI (SCI) and NIPM, Chennai, after production of identity cards issued by the Shipping Master, Mumbai/Kolkata/Chennai.
8. Persons holding permanent immigration visas such as those for UK, USA and Australia.
9. Persons possessing two-year diplomas from any institute recognised by the National Council for Vocational Training (NCVT) or State Council of Vocational Training (SCVT) or persons holding three-year diploma/ equivalent degree from institutions like Polytechnics recognised by Central/State Governments.
10. Nurses possessing qualifications recognised under the Indian Nursing Council Act, 1947.
11. All persons above the age of 50 years.
12. All persons who have been staying abroad for more than three years (the period of three years could be either in one stretch or broken) and their spouses.
13. Children below 18 years of age.

ANNEXURE- D

LIST OF COUNTRIES FOR WHICH EMIGRATION CHECK IS NOT REQUIRED (ECNR COUNTRIES)

1. Albania	40. Croatia	78. Italy
2. Algeria	41. Cuba	79. Jamaica
3. Andorra	42. Cyprus	80. Japan
4. Angola	43. Czech Republic	81. Kazakhstan
5. Antigua & Barduda	44. DPR Korea	82. Kenya
6. Argentina	45. Democratic Republic of Congo	83. Kiribati
7. Armenia	46. Denmark	84. Kyrgystan
8. Australia	47. Djibouti	85. Laos.PDR
9. Austria	48. Dominica	86. Latvia
10. Azerbaijan	49.Dominican Republic	87. Lesotho
11. Bahamas	50. Ecuador	88. Liberia
12. Bangladesh	51. Egypt	89. Liechtenstein
13. Barbados	52. El Salvador	90. Lithuania
14. Belarus	53. Equatorial Guinea	91. Luxemburg
15. Belgium	54. Eritrea	92. Madagascar
16. Belize	55. Estonia	93. Malawi
17. Benin	56. Ethiopia	94. Maldives
18. Bhutan	57. Fiji	95. Mali
19. Bolivia	58. Finland	96. Malta
20. Bosnia & Harzegovina	59. France	97. Marshall Islands
21. Botswana	60. Gabon	98. Mauritania
22. Brazil	61. Gambia	99. Mauritius
23. Brunei	62. Georgia	100. Mexico
24. Bulgaria	63. Germany	101. Micronesia
25. Burkina Faso	64. Ghana	102. Moldova
26. Burundi	65. Greece	103. Monaco
27. Cambodia	66. Grenada	104. Mongolia
28. Cameroon	67. Guatemala	105. Montenegro
29. Canada	68. Guinea	106. Morocco
30. Cape Verde	69. Guinea-Bisau	107. Mozambique
31. Central African Republic	70. Guyana	108. Myanmar
32. Chad	71. Haiti	109. Namibia
33. Chile	72. Honduras	110. Nauru
34. China	73. Hungary	111. Nepal
35. Colombia	74. Iceland	112. Netherlands
36. Comoros	75. Iran	113. New Zealand
37. Congo	76. Ireland	114. Nicaragua
38. Costa Rica	77. Israel	115. Niger
39. Cote d'Ivoire		116. Nigeria

ANNEXURE- D

117. Norway	137. Senegal	158. Trinidad & Tobago
118. Pakistan	138. Serbia	159. Tunisia
119. Palau	139. Seychelles	160. Turkey
120. Panama	140. Sierra Leone	161. Turkmenistan
121. Papua New Guinea	141. Singapore	162. Tuvalu
122. Paraguay	142. Slovakia	163. Uganda
123. Peru	143. Slovenia	164. Ukraine
124. Philippines	144. Solomon Islands	165. United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Island
125. Poland	145. Somalia	166. United Republic of Tanzania
126. Portugal	146. South Africa	167. USA
127. Rep of Korea	147. Spain	168. Uruguay
128. Romania	148. Sri Lanka	169. Uzbekistan
129. Russian Federation	149. Suriname	170. Vanuatu
130. Rwanda	150. Swaziland	171. Venezuela
131. Saint Kitts and Nevis	151. Sweden	172. Vietnam
132. Saint Lucia	152. Switzerland	173. Zambia
133. St Vincent and the Grenadines	153. Tajikistan	174. Zimbabwe
134. Samoa	154. The former Yugoslav Rep of Macedonia	175. Vatican
135. San Marino	155. Timor-Leste	
136. Sao Tome and Principe	156. Tonga	

TABLE - A

ANNUAL LABOUR OUTFLOW FROM INDIA DESTINATION WISE FROM 2008-2012

SN	Country	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
1	Afghanistan	405	395	256	487	125
2	Bahrain	31,924	17,541	15,101	14,323	20,150
3	Indonesia	33	9	3	22	11
4	Iraq			390	1,177	917
5	Jordan	1,377	847	2,562	1,413	1,819
6	Kuwait	35,562	42,091	37,667	45,149	55,868
7	Lebanon	75	250	765	534	288
8	Libya	5,040	3,991	5,221	477	01
9	Malaysia	21,123	11,345	20,577	17,947	21,241
10	Oman	89,659	74,963	1,05,807	73,819	84,384
11	Qatar	82,937	46,292	45,752	41,710	63,096
12	S. Arabia	2,28,406	2,81,110	2,75,172	2,89,297	3,57,503
13	Sudan	1,045	708	957	1,175	491
14	Syria	74	0	2	118	0
15	Thailand	15	5	05	27	09
16	U. A. E.	3,49,827	1,30,302	1,30,910	1,38,861	1,41,138
17	Yemen	492	421	208	29	0
	TOTAL	8,47,994	6,10,270	6,41,355	6,26,565	7,47,041

Source: Emigration Services Division, MOIA

TABLE - B

**STATE-WISE FIGURES OF WORKERS GRANTED
EMIGRATION CLEARANCE/ECNR ENDORSEMENT
DURING THE YEARS 2008-2012**

SN	State	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
1.	A&N Islands	89	75	80	93	97
2.	Andhra Pradesh	97,530	69,233	72,220	71,589	92,803
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	244	181	188	175	153
4.	Assam	1,517	1,788	2,133	2,459	3,384
5.	Bihar	60,642	50,227	60,531	71,438	84,078
6.	Chandigarh	1,768	966	831	861	823
7.	Chhattisgarh	80	51	81	114	111
8.	Daman & Diu	27	8	11	13	31
9.	Delhi	4512	2501	2583	2425	2842
10.	DNH/UT	17	3	11	53	20
11.	Goa	2,210	1,659	1,380	1,112	1,338
12.	Gujarat	15,716	9,185	8,245	8,369	6,999
13.	Haryana	1,779	1,052	958	1,058	1,196
14.	Himachal Pradesh	1,345	776	743	739	847
15.	Jammu & Kashmir	3,588	4,307	4,080	4,137	4,737
16.	Jharkhand	3,561	3,545	3,922	4,287	5,292
17.	Karnataka	22,413	18,565	17,295	15,394	17,960
18.	Kerala	1,80,703	1,19,384	1,04,101	86,783	98,178
19.	Lakshdeep	23	19	18	11	13
20.	Madhya Pradesh	2,321	1,897	1,564	1,378	1,815
21.	Maharashtra	24,786	19,128	18,123	16,698	19,259
22.	Manipur	30	18	22	11	07
23.	Meghalaya	24	21	11	16	39
24.	Mizoram	8	2	4	0	03
25.	Nagaland	10	5	2	39	03
26.	Orissa	8,919	6,551	7,344	7,255	7,478
27.	Pondichery	397	320	223	211	257
28.	Port Blair	0		0	0	0

TABLE - B

SN	State	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
29.	Punjab	54,469	27,291	30,974	31,866	37,472
30.	Rajasthan	64,601	44,744	47,803	42,239	50,295
31.	Sikkim	18	12	8	8	13
32.	Tamil Nadu	1,28,791	78,841	84,510	68,732	78,185
33	Tripura	592	324	454	465	514
34	Uttar Pradesh	1,39,254	1,25,783	1,40,826	1,55,301	1,91,341
35	Uttarakhand	523	623	1,177	1,441	2,470
36	West Bengal	26,094	21,187	28,900	29,795	36,988
37	Others	0		0	0	0
	Total	8,48,601	6,10,272	6,41,356	6,26,565	7,47,041

TABLE - C

PRIVATE REMITTANCES (2001-02 TO 2011-12)

Year	In US \$ billion
2001-2002	15.8
2002-2003	17.2
2003-2004	22.2
2004-2005	21.1
2005-2006	25.0
2006-2007	30.8
2007-2008	43.5
2008-2009	46.9
2009-2010	53.9
2010-2011	55.9
2011-2012	70.0

(Rs. Crores) 1 Crore = 10 million

TABLE - D

**OBJECT HEAD WISE SUMMARY OF NON - PLAN
ESTIMATES VIS-A-VIS EXPENDITURE
(RS. Crores) 1 Crores = 10 million**

1	2 Object Head	3 BE 2012-13	4 Actual for 2012-13 upto 31.12.2012	5 RE 2012-13	6 BE 2013-14
	Revenue Section				
2052	Secretariat - General Services (Major Head)				
00.090	Secretariat(Minor Head)				
34	Ministry Of Overseas Indian Affairs				
34.01	Establishment				
34.01.01	Salaries	5.00	4.18	5.00	5.50
34.01.02	Wages	0.00	0.10	0.00	0.00
34.01.03	Overtime Allowance	0.03	0.01	0.03	0.03
34.01.06	Medical Treatment	0.15	0.09	0.15	0.20
34.01.11	Domestic Travel Expenses	0.90	0.48	0.65	1.00
34.01.12	Foreign Travel Expenses	0.75	0.82	1.00	0.85
34.01.13	Office Expenses	2.08	1.95	2.64	2.50
34.01.14	Rents, Rates And Taxes	1.00	1.06	2.47	3.63
34.01.16	Publications	0.20	0.01	0.20	0.22
34.01.17	Banking Cash Transaction Tax	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
34.01.26	Advertising And Publicity	0.50	0.49	2.00	2.75
34.01.27	Minor Works	0.05	0.00	0.86	0.94
34.01.28	Professional Services	0.20	0.29	0.20	0.20
	Total - Establishment	10.86	9.48	15.20	17.82
34.99	Information Technology				
34.99.13	Office Expenses	22.40	1.20	2.59	4.12
	Total - Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs	33.26	10.68	17.79	21.94

TABLE - D

1	2 Object Head	3 BE 2012-13	4 Actual for 2012-13 upto 31.12.2012	5 RE 2012-13	6 BE 2013-14
40	Protector General Of Emigrants				
40.01	Establishment				
40.01.01	Salaries	2.00	1.76	2.52	2.52
40.01.02	Wages	0.01	0.03	0.01	0.01
40.01.03	Overtime Allowance	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
40.01.06	Medical Treatment	0.11	0.04	0.11	0.12
40.01.11	Domestic Travel Expenses	0.36	0.09	0.16	0.14
40.01.12	Foreign Travel Expenses	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
40.01.14	Rents, Rates And Taxes	0.50	0.62	1.20	1.14
40.01.16	Publications	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
40.01.26	Advertising And Publicity	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
40.01.27	Minor Works	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.01
40.01.28	Professional Services	0.10	0.03	0.10	0.22
	Total - Establishment	4.09	3.40	5.19	5.64
40.99	Information Technology				
40.99.13	Office Expenses	0.75	0.70	2.22	1.23
	Total - Protector General of Emigrants	4.84	4.10	7.41	6.87
	Total - Secretariat	38.10	14.78	25.20	28.91
00.800	Other Expenditure(Minor Head)				
07	Expenditure on Holding Seminars and Studies				
07.00	Expenditure on Holding Seminars and Studies				
07.00.20	Other Administrative Expenses	0.00	0.00	0.13	0.10
	Total - Major Head "2052"	38.10	14.78	25.33	28.91
2061	External Affairs(Major Head)				
00.104	International Conference/ meetings(Minor Head)				
01	International Conferences/meetings				
01.00	International Conferences/meetings				
01.00.20	Other Administrative Expenses	1.00	0.22	0.22	1.00

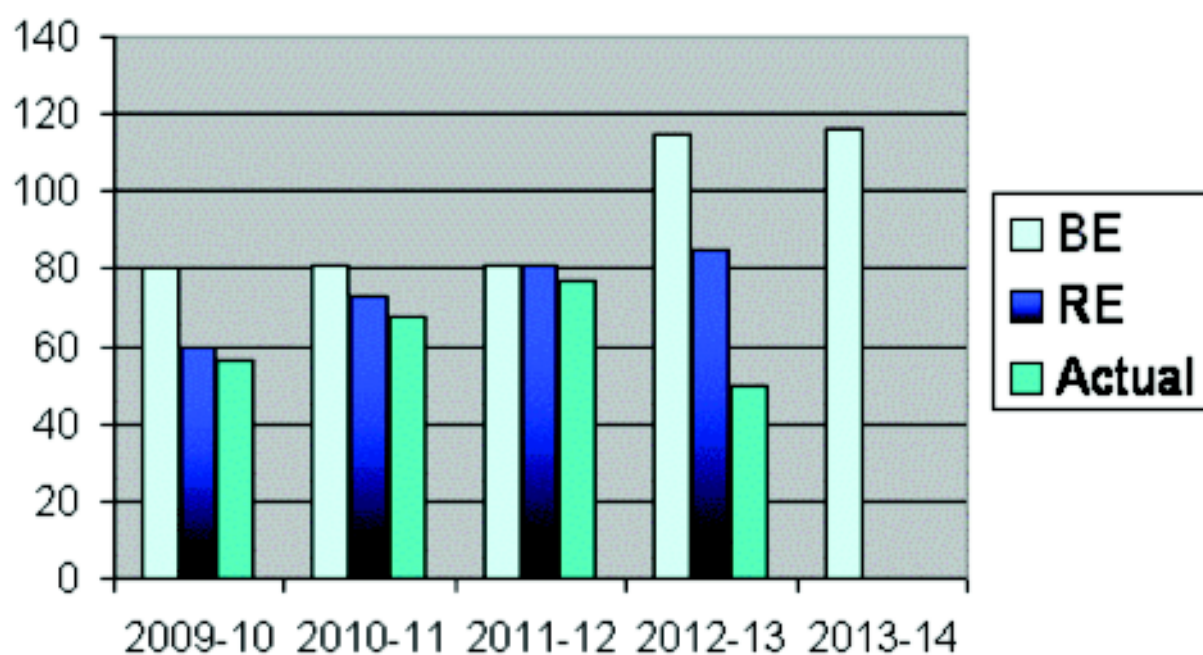
TABLE - D

1	2 Object Head	3 BE 2012-13	4 Actual for 2012-13 upto 31.12.2012	5 RE 2012-13	6 BE 2013-14
00.106	Entertainment charges(Minor Head)				
01	Entertainment of Dignitaries				
01.00	Entertainment of Dignitaries				
01.00.20	Other Administrative Expenses	0.30	0.10	0.10	0.30
00.800	Other Expenditure(Minor Head)				
03	Other Schemes (Sub Head)				
03.03	Other Items				
03.03.31	(object Head) Grants-in-aid	2.00	0.25	1.00	1.00
03.03.50	Other Charges	5.50	2.75	3.00	12.00
03.04	Overseas Citizenship of India(OCI)				
03.04.50	Other Charges	1.45	2.44	4.41	2.38
03.05	Know India Programme(KIP)				
03.05.50	Other Charges	5.00	0.34	2.97	4.00
03.06	Scholarship Scheme for Diaspora Children(SSDC)				
03.06.50	Other Charges	5.00	4.97	5.00	7.60
03.07	Promotion of Cultural Ties with Diaspora Children				
03.07.50	Other Charges	0.80	0.29	0.50	0.50
03.08	Awareness Campaign/Media Plan				
03.08.50	Other Charges	9.43	0.00	9.20	10.00
03.09	India Development Foundation				
03.09.50	Other Charges	2.00	0.00	0.01	2.00
03.10	Overseas Indian Facilitation Centre(OIFC)				
03.10.50	Other Charges	7.00	0.00	5.25	7.00
03.11	Overseas Workers Resource Centre(OWRC)				
03.11.50	Other Charges	1.00	0.53	0.53	1.25
03.13	Labour Mobility Partnership				
03.13.50	Other Charges	0.05	0.00	0.00	0.05
03.20	Pre-departure Orientation and Skill Upgradation of Emigrant Workers				

TABLE - D

1	2 Object Head	3 BE 2012-13	4 Actual for 2012-13 upto 31.12.2012	5 RE 2012-13	6 BE 2013-14
03.20.50	Other Charges	0.05	0.00	0.00	0.05
03.22	Overseas Indian Centres				
03.22.50	Other Charges	2.34	1.44	3.00	4.00
03.24	India Centre for Migration (ICM)				
03.24.50	Other Charges	7.00	6.00	6.00	5.00
03.25	Legal Assistance to Women Facing Problems in NRI Marriages				
03.25.50	Other Charges	0.75	0.02	0.65	0.75
	Total - Other Schemes (Sub Head)	49.37	19.03	41.52	57.58
15	Celebration of Parvasi Bhartiya Divas				
15.00.50	Other Charges	6.00	5.86	7.83	8.00
	Total - Other Expenditure	55.37	24.89	49.35	65.58
	Total - Major Head "2061"	56.67	25.21	49.67	66.88
	Total - Revenue Section	94.77	39.99	75.00	95.79
	Capital Section				
4059	Capital Outlay On Public Works (Major Head)				
60	Other Buildings(Sub Major Head)				
60.051	Construction(Minor Head)				
23	Parvasi Bhartiya Kendra				
23.00	Parvasi Bhartiya Kendra				
23.00.53	Major Works	20.00	10.00	10.00	20.00
24	Construction/purchase of Buildings for PGE/POEs				
24.00	Construction/purchase of Buildings for PGE/POEs				
24.00.53	Major Works				
	Total - Construction	20.00	10.00	10.00	20.00
	Total - Other Buildings	20.00	10.00	10.00	20.00
	Total - Major Head "4059"	20.00	10.00	10.00	20.00
	Total - Capital Section	20.00	10.00	10.00	20.00
	Grand Total	114.77	49.99	85.00	115.79

Figure-A
ESTIMATES AND EXPENDITURE
(Rs. In Crores)



For 2012-13 Actual as on 31-12-2012
Source: Finance & Budget Division, MOIA

FIGURE-B
ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENDITURE
(UP TO DECEMBER 2012) VIS-À-VIS SCHEME
EXPENDITURE IN THE
YEAR 2012-2013- ESTIMATES
(Rs. In Crores)

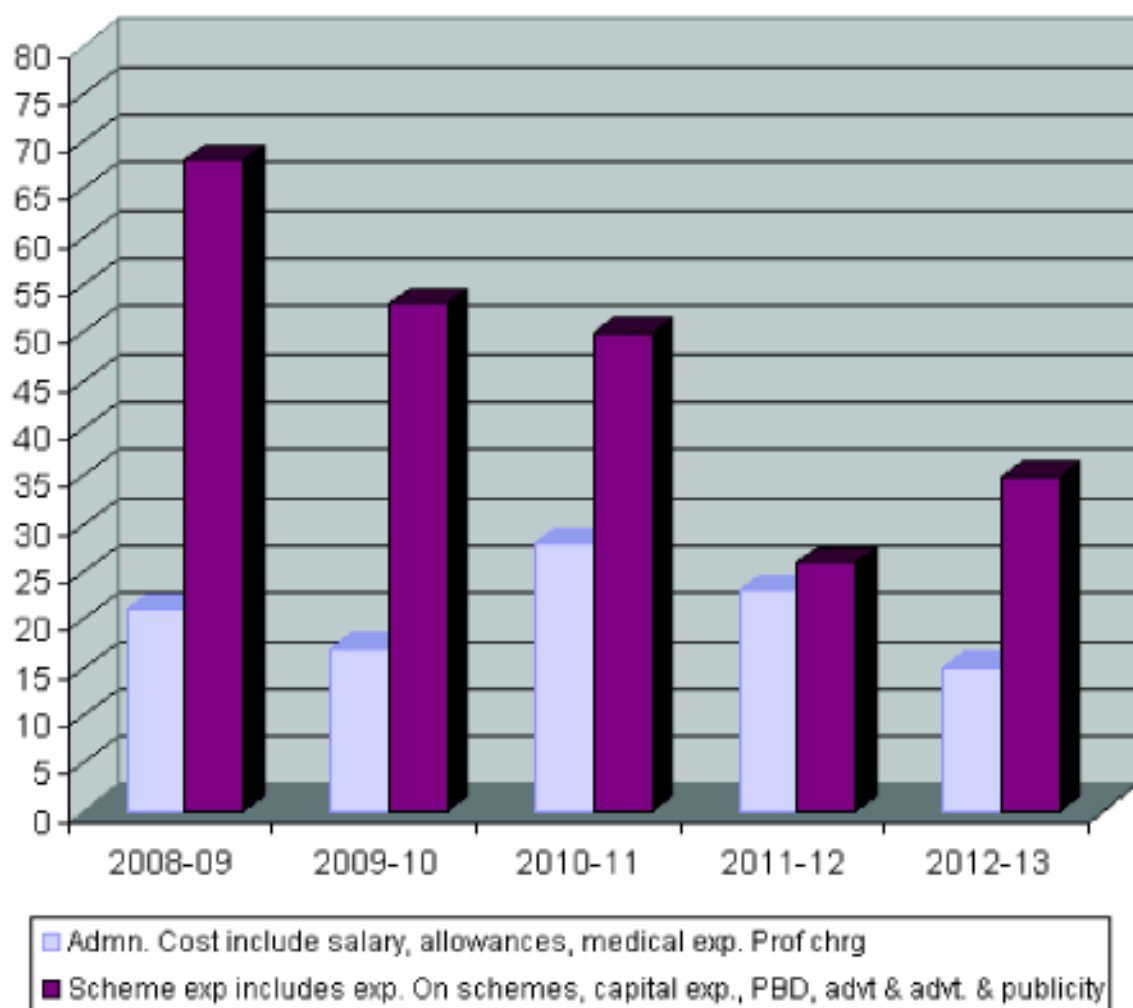
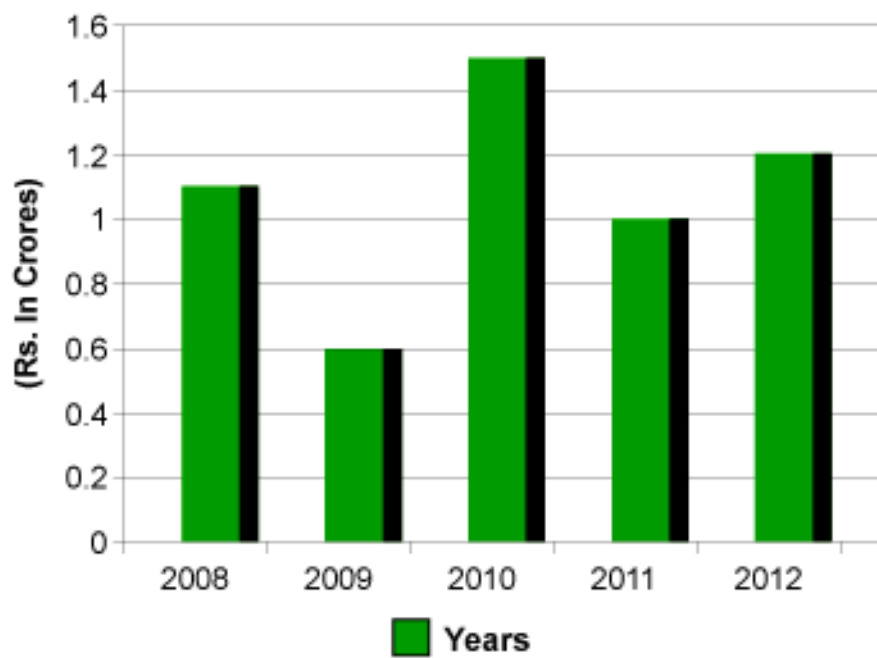


FIGURE-C
NET BUDGET OUTFLOW* ON
PBD (Rs. In Crore)



Outflow* = Actual PBD Expenditure less
Revenue generated

Source: Finance & Budget Division, MOIA

ABBREVIATIONS

CDS Centre for Development Studies
CGI Consulate General of India
DMIS Data Management Information System
ECR Emigration Clearance Required
ECNR Emigration Clearance Not Required
FEMA Foreign Exchange Management Act
FERA Foreign Exchange Regulation Act
HCI High Commission of India
HOM Head of Mission
HRMP Human Resource Mobility Partnership
ICM India Center for Migration
ICWF Indian Community Welfare Fund
IDF-OI Indian Development Fund of Overseas Indians
IOM International Organization for Migration
JWG Joint Working Group
KIP Know India Programme
MGPSY Mahatma Gandhi Pravasi Suraksha Yojna
MOIA Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs
MRC Migration Resource Centre
NPS National Pension Scheme
NRI Non-Resident Indian
OWRC Overseas Workers Resource Centre
OCI Overseas Citizen of India
PBD Pravasi Bharatiya Divas
PBK Pravasi Bhartiya Kendra
PBSA Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Award
PFRDA Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority
PGE Protector General of Emigrants
PIO People of Indian Origin
PLIF Pension Life Insurance Fund
PMGAC Prime Minister's Global Advisory Council of Overseas Indians
POE Protector of Emigrants
RA Recruiting Agent
RC Registration certificate
RAC Research Advisory Committee
RGIDS Rajiv Gandhi Institute of Development Studies
RUIM Research Unit on International Migration
SSA Social Security Agreement



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of Overseas Indians

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champions.
change.

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Vayalar Ravi
Minister for Overseas Indian Affairs



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