

## Chapter-13

### ECONOMIC EMIGRATION

13.1 Human migration is one of the most challenging tasks facing the world today. Migration means the movement of skills, cultures, traditions, families and hopes – in short moving of complexities that make up the life of a human being. Migration for employment abroad offers an opportunity for providing gainful employment to the increasing number of unemployed persons. It is estimated that there are about 9 million unemployed persons and another 20 million are estimated to be under-employed. The primary motivation for employment abroad remains economic.

#### Trends in Emigration

13.2 Earlier, the destination of Indian workers was mainly the United States of America, United Kingdom, Canada and other developed countries. During the mid-seventies, the oil boom in West Asia and the Gulf countries vastly changed the complexion of migration. The steep hike in oil prices during 1973-74 and thereafter led to a considerable increase in the revenue of the oil producing and exporting countries in West Asia and the Gulf region. As a result, development programmes including construction of roads, creation of amenities like schools, hospitals, houses, airports, office and commercial complexes etc. were taken up in a big way. This resulted in a spurt in demand for not only highly skilled technical experts but also semi-skilled and unskilled workers. India was well placed to meet these emerging demands. Therefore, the 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. The number of workers who were given emigration clearance for contractual employment abroad during the last five years and data on distribution of labour outflows is detailed in **Tables-13.1, 13.2 and 13.3.**

13.3 Most of the migrants to Middle East oil exporting countries are semi-skilled and unskilled workers and most of them are temporary migrants who return to India after expiry of their contractual employment. During the year 1999, there was a decline in the number of persons emigrating for employment abroad primarily due to the determined efforts of the Governments of the Gulf countries to provide jobs to local population, maintenance of ethnic balance, completion of various projects and more rigorous scrutiny before visas were granted. Of late, some Gulf countries have imposed restrictions on issuance of visas for the unskilled category of workers. However, the situation has improved considerably since the latter half of the year 2000. There has been an increase in the number of emigration clearances granted during 2004 (4.75 lakh) over 2003 (4.66 lakh).

#### Remittances

13.4 The employment of Indian workers abroad helps to earn foreign exchange and thereby adds to the foreign exchange reserves of the country. The private transfer of foreign exchange from the year 1999-2000 onwards is given in **Table-13.4.** As may be seen there has been a steady increase in the remittances from Rs.53,280 crore in 1999-2000 to Rs.50,489 crore in 2004-05 (upto 30<sup>th</sup> September). It is estimated that a major proportion of this is contributed by the increasing number of unskilled and semi-skilled workers working in the Gulf countries, Malaysia and Singapore.

#### The Legal Framework

13.5 India has a vast reservoir of well-trained technical manpower in all disciplines, be it Information Technology, Management, Engineering, Medical or Science, Academics etc. In recent years, a large number of Indians have been able to find jobs abroad. The role of the

Government is to facilitate maximum number of persons to find employment, both within and outside the country. While doing so, the Government is guided by the Emigration Act, 1983 to ensure protection to vulnerable categories of unskilled, semi-skilled workers and women going abroad to work as housemaids and domestic workers. They should get fair wages and decent working and living conditions, including medical cover and insurance to provide for contingencies.

13.6 The Emigration Act, 1983, which came into force with effect from 30<sup>th</sup> 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 Indian & Others) and provides for a regulatory framework in respect of emigration of Indian workers for overseas employment on contractual basis and seeks to safeguard their interests and ensure their welfare. The Act makes it mandatory for registration of all Recruiting Agents with the Ministry of Labour before they can conduct the business of recruitment for overseas employment. The Certificate is granted by the Protector General of Emigrants after taking into account, inter alia, the Recruiting Agent's financial soundness, trustworthiness, adequacy of premises, experience in the field of handling manpower export, etc., and after obtaining security deposit ranging between Rs.3 lakh to Rs.10 lakh in the form of Bank Guarantee.

The scale of security at present is as under: -

upto 300 workers.....	Rs.3 lakh
301 to 1000 workers.....	Rs.5 lakh
1001 workers and above.....	Rs.10 lakh

13.7 The security deposit is provided for to secure due performance of the terms and conditions of the Registration Certificate and also to meet the contingencies arising out of any worker

stranded abroad. Under Section 16 of the Emigration Act, 1983, an employer can recruit any citizen of India for employment abroad either through a registered Recruiting Agent or directly by obtaining a permit issued from the concerned Indian Mission or the Ministry of Labour under Section 15 of the Act. Indian workers are also deployed by Indian Companies for deployment on Projects undertaken by them abroad. The Recruiting Agents are authorised to charge, as service charges, from each worker at the following rates: -

Category	Maximum service charges
i. Unskilled workers	Rs.2,000/-
ii. Semi-skilled workers	Rs.3,000/-
iii. Skilled workers	Rs.5,000/-
iv. Other than the above	Rs.10,000/-

13.8 The Ministry of Labour and Employment has progressively decentralised the process of emigration clearance. Currently, this is being done through the eight offices of Protectors of Emigrants (POEs) located at Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata, Chennai, Chandigarh, Cochin, Hyderabad and Thiruvananthapuram. In order to facilitate smooth public interface, all eight POE Offices work six days a week.

**Emigration Check Required (ECR) Category**

13.9 Categories of persons whose passports have been endorsed as "Emigration Check Required" (ECR), if intending to travel abroad for purposes other than employment are required to obtain 'suspension' from the requirement of obtaining emigration clearance. The persons seeking 'suspension' are required to submit a simple application in the prescribed format, produce the return ticket and passport with non-employment visa. The 'suspension' is granted on the same day by the eight POEs and certain other authorised Passport Offices. Indian Missions have also been delegated the

powers to extend the period of 'suspension'. Basically, those travelling abroad as tourists and whose passports carry ECR endorsement obtain 'suspensions'. The total number of 'suspensions' granted by the Protectors of Emigrants during the last five years is given in **Table 13.5**.

### **Emigration Check Not Required (ECNR) Category**

13.10 Section 22 of the Emigration Act, 1983, provides that no citizen of India shall emigrate unless he/she obtains emigration clearance from the offices of Protector of Emigrants. However, through periodical reviews, the regulatory mechanism has been progressively liberalised. Currently, fourteen categories of persons have been exempted from this requirement and have been placed under the 'Emigration Check Not Required' (ECNR) category. (**Table-13.6**). Persons belonging to any of these categories are entitled to get the ECNR endorsement on their passports from the Regional Passport Offices after showing proof of their eligibility. Persons with ECNR endorsement on their passports do not require to obtain any clearance from POE Offices.

13.11 In addition to the above, a worker belonging to any of the following six categories and having valid employment visa endorsed on his/her passport can approach the concerned POE through a registered Recruiting Agent for ECNR endorsement on his/her passport:

- i. Supervisors (all professions);
- ii. Skilled workers (all professions);
- iii. Semi-skilled workers (all professions);
- iv. Light/Medium/Heavy Vehicle Drivers;
- v. Clerical workers of all categories including Stenographers, Store-keepers, Time-keepers, Typists, etc.; and
- vi. Cooks excluding those who seek employment in household duties (as cooks).

13.12 Persons going to 54 countries including Bangladesh, Pakistan, countries in North America and Europe (excluding certain CIS countries) are exempted from emigration check formalities. The pilgrims going for Haj and Umrah in Saudi Arabia and those pilgrims travelling with the declared purpose of performing Ziarat at Saudi Arabia, Syria, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Egypt and Sana (Yemen) are also exempt from the requirement of obtaining 'suspension' from Emigration Check Requirements from POEs/Passport offices. After a comprehensive review during 2003-04, four more countries, viz., South Africa, South Korea, Singapore and Thailand have been included in the ECNR category. The complete list of 54 ECNR countries is given in **Table 13.7**.

### **Recruiting Agents**

13.13 The registration of Recruiting Agents under the Emigration Act, 1983, commenced from January, 1984, and upto 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2004 Registration Certificates were issued to 4263 Recruiting Agents. This figure includes nine State Manpower Export Corporations established in the States of Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Punjab, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Himachal Pradesh, Haryana and Delhi. However, at present 1425 Recruiting Agents are engaged in this business with valid registration certificates. Major concentration of Recruiting Agents is at Mumbai, Delhi, Chennai and Thiruvananthapuram.

### **Manpower Exports for Projects**

13.14 Indian companies which are executing projects abroad are required to obtain appropriate clearance from the Reserve Bank of India/Ministry of Commerce before emigration clearance for taking their workers abroad is granted. If the Project Exporters propose to send groups of workers abroad, they are required to furnish a Bank Guarantee ranging from Rs.20,000/- to Rs.5 lakh depending upon the number of workers

proposed to be taken abroad. These provisions have been made to ensure adequate protection to workers while working abroad.

13.15 The workers going abroad on an individual basis recruited by or directly through foreign employers are no longer required to deposit any security following introduction of the Pravasi Bharatiya Bima Yojana w.e.f. 25.12.2003.

### **Redressal of Grievances**

13.16 As a result of the liberalisation of the policy while the number of persons going abroad has increased, a fair number of the emigrant workers face difficulties. Complaints are received from various quarters, regarding non-payment / delayed payment of wages unilateral changes in the contracts of workers, changing the jobs 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 suffering untold misery, also become a burden on our Missions. In such instances, the Protector General of Emigrants (PGE) steps in and gets the concerned Recruiting Agent to get the workers repatriated on his expense. If he fails to do, his Bank Guarantee is forfeited and the amount utilised to pay for the repatriation expenses.

13.17 Complaints against Recruiting Agents are enquired into with the help of POEs and the concerned Indian Missions and action, as appropriate in each case in accordance with the provisions of the Emigration Act, 1983 and Rules framed there under is taken. Complaints against un-registered agents are referred to the concerned Police authorities for investigation and action under the law of the land. All State Governments and UT Administrations have also been advised to instruct all Police Stations to keep a strict vigil on the activities of unscrupulous agents. Complaints against foreign employers are taken up with the Indian Missions and if need be the employer is blacklisted. Departmental action is also

taken against the erring agents by way of suspension and cancellation of Registration Certificate and forfeiture of Bank Guarantee. During 2004, Registration Certificates of 23 agents have been suspended/cancelled. Efforts by Indian Missions abroad to check the exploitation of Indian workers have resulted in blacklisting of twenty-one employers in Malaysia, Qatar and Kuwait etc.

13.18 The Protector General of Emigrants (PGE), Ministry of Labour hold Public Hearings twice a week on Tuesdays and Fridays from 11.30 AM to 12.30 PM at Shram Shakti Bhavan, New Delhi. Affected parties can meet the PGE on the appointed days for redressal of their grievances. During the year 2004, 1585 petitions/representations were handled at these Public Hearings and all of them have been disposed off. Strict vigilance is also enforced to secure proper conduct of the officials handling emigration matters.

### **Rehabilitation of returning migrants**

13.19 The State Governments were advised to consider setting up Societies to guide and assist returning migrants for their rehabilitation through self-employment, skill upgradation or wage-paid employment programmes. Financial and Industrial Development Corporations and other societies in Andhra Pradesh, Delhi and Kerala already extend guidance and help to the returning migrants for promoting industries sponsored by them.

### **The Pravasi Bharatiya Bima Yojana**

13.20 On the occasion of the Pravasi Bharatiya Divas on 09.01.2003, the Hon'ble Prime Minister announced introduction of a compulsory Insurance Scheme for the emigrants going abroad for employment. In pursuance of this announcement, a compulsory Insurance Scheme known as the Pravasi Bharatiya Bima Yojana (PBBY), 2003 was notified on 13.11.2003. This Scheme has come into force on the 25<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2003 and is applicable only to citizens of India who are required to obtain an emigration clearance.

**Coordination with other Ministries**

13.21 It has been recognised that there needs to be better co-ordination between various Central Ministries/Organisations as also with the State Governments. Hence, an Inter-Ministerial Committee under the Chairmanship of Additional Secretary, Ministry of Labour and Employment has been constituted. The Committee meets at regular intervals with a view to discuss problem areas and improve the Government-public interface. The core Ministries of Labour and Employment, External Affairs and Home Affairs are represented on the Committee. The Committee is empowered to co-opt State

Government representatives and other concerned Ministries / Organisations also.

**Amendment in the GOI (Allocation of Business) Rules, 1961**

13.22 Vide Notification dated 15.12.2004 issued by the Rashtrapati Bhavan, entry 22 under the Ministry of Labour and Employment has been omitted and the subject "all emigration under the Emigration Act, 1983 (31 of 1983) from India to overseas countries and the return of emigrants" has been transferred from the Ministry of Labour and Employment to the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs. A copy of the Notification is annexed.

<b>EMIGRATION FOR EMPLOYMENT DURING THE LAST FIVE YEARS</b>	
<b>Year</b>	<b>Number of workers (in lakhs)</b>
2000	2.43
2001	2.79
2002	3.68
2003	4.66
2004	4.75

<b>DISTRIBUTION OF ANNUAL LABOUR OUTFLOWS FROM INDIA BY DESTINATION (2000-2004)</b>						
<b>Sl.No.</b>	<b>Country</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>2002</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>
1.	U. A. E.	55099	53673	95034	143804	175262
2.	Saudi Arabia	58722	78048	99453	121431	123522
3.	Kuwait	31082	39751	4859	54434	52064
4.	Oman	15155	30985	41209	36816	33275
5.	Malaysia	4615	6131	10512	26898	31464
6.	Bahrain	15909	16382	20807	24778	22980
7.	Qatar	--	13829	12596	14251	16325
8.	Libya	1198	334	1339	2796	2303
	Others	61402	39531	81854	41248	17765
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>243182</b>	<b>278664</b>	<b>367663</b>	<b>466456</b>	<b>474960</b>

**\*\* Notified as an ECNR country on 14.10.2003**

**Table-13.3****STATE-WISE FIGURES OF WORKERS GRANTED EMIGRATION  
CLEARANCE/ECNR ENDORSEMENT DURING THE YEARS 2000-2004**

State	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Andhra Pradesh	29,999	37,331	38,417	65,971	72,580
Andaman & Nicobar	0	0	2	9	29
Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	61	73
Assam	0	1,575	2,666	2,298	2,695
Bihar	6,726	9,711	19,222	17,104	21,812
Chandigarh	2045	2435	2,813	2,374	2,405
Chhattisgarh	-	-	0	588	580
Delhi	3165	3183	4,018	6,513	6,052
Gujarat	5,722	10,294	11,925	17,012	22,218
Goa	1331	2255	3,545	3,494	7,053
Haryana	52	154	424	1,246	1,267
Himachal Pradesh	214	116	1,724	1,690	1,506
Jammu & Kashmir	35	1366	1,323	42	1,944
Jharkhand	-	-	0	1,779	919
Karnataka	10927	10095	14,061	22,641	19,237
Kerala	69630	61548	81,950	92,044	63,512
Madhya Pradesh	1706	5035	7,411	10,651	8,888
Maharashtra	13346	22713	25,477	29,350	28,670
Manipur	0	0	2	50	29
Meghalaya	0	0	0	1	0
Mizoram	0	0	0	81	38
Nagaland	0	0	1	54	46
Orissa	576	3014	1,742	5,370	6,999
Pondicherry	35	21	21	24	560
Punjab	10025	12422	19,638	24,963	25,302
Rajasthan	10170	14993	23,254	37,693	35,108
Sikkim	2	3	16	3	0
Tamil Nadu	63878	61649	79,165	89,464	1,08,964
Tripura	0	2	1,114	4	2
Uttar Pradesh	9157	13912	19,288	24,854	27,428
Uttaranchal	-	-	106	122	58
West Bengal	1940	4830	8,338	8,906	8,986
Others	2164	7	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>212,846</b>	<b>278,664</b>	<b>3,67,663</b>	<b>4,66,456</b>	<b>4,74,960</b>

Source: Offices of the Protectors of Emigrants

<b>Table-13.4</b>		
<b>PRIVATE REMITTANCES</b>		
<b>Year</b>	<b>In US \$ million</b>	<b>Rupees in Crores</b>
1999-2000	12290	53280
2000-2001	12873	58756
2001-2002	12125	57821
2002-2003	14807	71642
2003-2004	18885	86764
2004-2005*	11114	50489

**\*Upto 30.09.2004.**

<b>Table-13.5</b>	
<b>SUSPENSION OF EMIGRATION CLEARANCE</b>	
<b>Year</b>	<b>Number of suspension granted (in lakhs)</b>
2000	3.63
2001	3.98
2002	4.37
2003	4.96
2004	4.49

Table 13.6

**LIST OF PERSONS/CATEGORIES OF WORKERS IN WHOSE CASE  
EMIGRATION CHECK IS NOT REQUIRED**

<p><b>1.</b> All holders of Diplomatic / Official Passports.</p>	<p><b>8.</b> Dependent children of parents whose passport are classified as ECNR. In the case of such children, ECNR classification to be restricted until they attain 24 years of age.</p>
<p><b>2.</b> All Gazetted Government servants.</p>	
<p><b>3.</b> All Income-tax payers (including Agricultural Income-tax payees) in their individual capacity.</p>	
<p><b>4.</b> All professional degree holders, such as Doctors holding M.B.B.S. degrees or Degrees in Ayurved or Homoeopathy; Accredited Journalists; Engineers; Chartered Accountants; Lecturers; Teachers; Scientists; Advocates etc.</p>	<p><b>9.</b> Persons holding permanent immigration Visas, such as the visas of UK, USA and Australia.</p>
<p><b>5.</b> Spouses and dependent children of category of persons listed from (2) to (4).</p>	<p><b>10.</b> Persons possessing two years' diploma from any institute recognized by the National Council for Vocational Training (NCVT) or State Council of Vocational Training (SCVT) or persons holding three years' diploma/equivalent degree from institutions like Polytechnics recognised by Central/ State Governments.</p>
<p><b>6.</b> Persons holding 10+2 qualifications or higher Degrees.</p>	<p><b>11.</b> Nurses possessing qualification recognised under the Indian Nursing Council Act, 1947.</p>
<p><b>7.</b> 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 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/Calcutta/ Chennai.</p>	<p><b>12.</b> All persons above the age of 50 years.</p>
	<p><b>13.</b> 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 spouses and children upto 24 years of such persons.</p>
	<p><b>14.</b> Children below 18 years of age provided they are accompanied by any or both parents.</p>

Table-13.7

**LIST OF COUNTRIES FOR WHICH EMIGRATION CHECK IS  
NOT REQUIRED**

1.	Albania	28.	Lithuania
2.	Australia	29.	Luxemburg
3.	Austria	30.	Malta
4.	Bahamas	31.	Mexico
5.	Bangladesh	32.	Monaco
6.	Bhutan	33.	Nepal
7.	Bulgaria	34.	Netherlands
8.	Canada	35.	New Zealand
9.	Cyprus	36.	Norway
10.	Czech Republic	37.	Pakistan
11.	Denmark	38.	Poland
12.	Estonia	39.	Portugal
13.	Finland	40.	Romania
14.	France	41.	San Marino
15.	Germany	42.	Slovak Republic
16.	Gibraltar	43.	Spain
17.	Greece	44.	Sweden
18.	Greenland	45.	Switzerland
19.	Hungary	46.	The Holy sea
20.	Ireland	47.	Turkey
21.	Iceland	48.	United States of America
22.	Italy	49.	Yugoslavia
23.	Japan	50.	Belgium
24.	Latvia	51.	South Korea
25.	Liechtenstein	52.	South Africa
26.	Vatican City	53.	Singapore
27.	United Kingdom	54.	Thailand

Annexure

(To be published in Part II, Section 3, Sub-section (ii) of the Gazette of India, Extra Ordinary, Dated the 16<sup>th</sup> December, 2004.)

Doc. CD-492/2004

RASHTRAPATI BHAVAN  
NEW DELHI

**Notification**

Dated the 15<sup>th</sup> December, 2004

S.O. \_\_\_\_\_(E).- In exercise of the powers conferred by clause (3) of article 77 of the Constitution, the President hereby makes the following rules further to amend the Government of India (Allocation of Business) Rules, 1961, namely:-

1. (1) These rules may be called the Government of India (Allocation of Business) (Two hundred and seventy – eighth Amendment) Rules, 2004.

(2) They shall come into force at once.

2. In the Government of India (Allocation of Business) Rules, 1961, in the Second Schedule,-

(A) under the heading “MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (VANIJYA AUR UDYOG MANTRALAYA)”, under the sub-heading “B. DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL AND PROMOTION (AUDYOGIK NITI AUR SAMVARDHAN VIBHAG)”, for entry 21, the following entry shall be substituted, namely:-

“21. Direct foreign and non-resident investment in industrial and service projects excluding functions entrusted to the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs.”;

(B) under the heading “MINISTRY OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (UTTAR POORVI KSHETRA VIKAS MANTRALAYA)”, after entry 10, the following ‘Note’ shall be added, namely:-

“Note: While the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region would coordinate with various Ministries/Departments primarily concerned with development and welfare activities in North Eastern Region, respective Ministries/Departments would be responsible in respect of subjects allocated to them.”;

(C) under the heading “MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (VIDESH MANTRALAYA)”, -

(i) for entry 12, the following entry shall be substituted, namely:-

“12. Scholarship to foreign students excluding scholarship to Non-Resident Indians (NRIs)/Persons of Indian Origin (PIO) students for study in India under different schemes.”; and

(ii) for entry 22, the following entry shall be substituted, namely:-

“22. External publicity excluding such publicity concerning overseas Indians’ affairs.”;

- (D) under the heading “MINISTRY OF FINANCE (VITTA MANTRALAYA)”, under the sub-heading “A. DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS (ARTHIK KARYA VIBHAG)”,-
- (i) for entry 4, the following entry shall be substituted, namely:-
    - “4. Foreign and Non-Resident Indian Investment excluding functions entrusted to the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs and Direct Foreign and Non-Resident Indian Investment in Industrial and Service projects.”;
  - (ii) for entry 19, the following entry shall be substituted, namely:-
    - “19. All matters relating to the Foreign Volunteers Programmes in India including the incoming United National Volunteers (UNV) but excluding programmes in India for overseas Indian Volunteers and outgoing volunteers under UNV.”;
- (E) under the heading “MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRAM AUR ROZGAR MANTRALAYA)”, entry 22 shall be omitted;
- (F) under the heading “MINISTRY OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (PRAVASI BHARTIYA KARYA MANTRALAYA) ”, for the existing entry 1, the following entries shall be substituted, namely:-
- “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. Promotion of investment by Overseas Indians in India including innovative investments and policy initiatives consistent with the overall Government policies particularly in areas such as exclusive Special Economic Zones (SEZs) for Overseas Indians.
  3. To be represented in the Foreign Investment Promotion Board and the Foreign Investment Implementation Authority.
  4. 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.
  5. All emigration under the Emigration Act, 1983 (31 of 1983) from India to overseas countries and the return of emigrants.
  6. Matters relating to Pravasi Bharatiya Divas, Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Awards and Pravasi Bharatiya Kendra.
  7. Matters relating to programmes in India for overseas Indian Volunteers.
  8. Setting up and administration of Centres for Overseas Indians’ Affairs in countries having major concentration of Overseas Indians in consultation and coordination with the Ministry of External Affairs .
  9. Policy regarding employment assistance to PIO/NRIs excluding reservations in Government service.
  10. 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.

11. Scholarship to NRI/PIO students for study in India under different schemes in consultation with the Ministry of External Affairs.
12. Development of marketing and communication strategies to ensure strong links between the Overseas Indian community and India.
13. Matters relating to NRI/PIO contributions to the Government and parental organisations in consultation with the Department of Economic Affairs.
14. Guidance to and Cooperation with the State Governments and coordination with them on matters related to Overseas Indians.
15. To be represented in the Indian Council of Cultural Relations.
16. 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.
17. External Publicity relating to Overseas Indians' affairs in consultation with the Ministry of External Affairs and in consonance with foreign policy objectives.
18. New initiatives for interaction by Overseas Indians with India in the fields such as Trade, Culture, Tourism, Media, Youth Affairs, Health, Education, Science and Technology in consultation with concerned Ministries.

Note: The Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs will be consulted by the concerned Ministries in all matters concerning Overseas Indians handled by them such as PIO Card Scheme, dual citizenship issues, FCRA matters of Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) of Overseas Indians. Similarly Reserve Bank of India (RBI) will consult Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs while framing policies and schemes governing deposits by overseas Indians.”;

(G) under the heading “MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIVANCES AND PENSIONS (KARMIK, LOK SHIKAYAT TATHA PENSION MANTRALAYA)”, under the sub-heading “A. DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING (KARMIK AUR PRASHIKSHAN VIBHAG)”, entry 7 shall be omitted.”.

A.P.J. Abdul Kalam  
President

[File No. 1/22/1/2004-Cab.]

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