

Chapter-24

OVERSEAS COOPERATION IN VOCATIONAL TRAINING

24.1 DGE&T in the Ministry of Labour and Employment recognizes the importance of bilateral cooperation in employment and vocational training for national economic development. In order to strengthen and broaden mutual cooperation, a Memorandum of Understandings (MoUs) have been signed between the Ministry of Labour and Employment Government of India with the Republic of Iran, and Republic of Mozambique.

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MoU) BETWEEN INDIA & IRAN

24.2 A Memorandum of Understanding was signed between the Ministry of Labour and Employment of the Republic of India and Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran on 25th January 2003 recognizing the importance of Vocational Training and skill development. Article 2 of MoU, endows cooperation in the following forms:

- Exchange of visits, including study tours, information, experience and documents
- Consulting activities by experts
- Sending experts to attend seminars, workshops and other activities held in both countries.
- Jointly organizing training programmes.

24.3 A delegation led by His Excellency, Mr. Seyed Safdar Hosseini, Minister of Labour and Social Affairs, Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, Islamic Republic of Iran visited India from 28th August to 31st August 2003 and discussions at length were held on vocational training and skill development programme offered by DGET, Ministry of Labour. The delegation visited various vocational training institutes, both in Public & Private sector, offering skill-training courses for school leavers.

24.4 A Joint Working Group comprising senior officials of both the countries was constituted to oversee the implementation of the MoU.

24.5 The first meeting of the Joint Working Group was held during 26-28 April 2004 in Tehran. The two sides agreed to organize courses, seminars, and workshops on Labour issues for instructors, experts, and trainees in India and Iran.

24.6 A presentation on 'Labour Market Information System in India' was given in the Training Workshop organized from December 6-9, 2004 at V.V Giri National Labour Institute, Noida on addressing emerging challenges in the world of Labour for 15 officials of the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, Islamic Republic of Iran.

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN INDIA AND MOZAMBIQUE

24.7 A five-member delegation led by H.E. Mr. Mario Lampiao Sevene, Minister of Labour, Mozambique visited India during 21-27 April 2003. Subsequently a delegation led by Hon'ble Labour & Employment Minister visited Mozambique in August 2003 and a MoU for cooperation in field of employment & vocational training areas was signed on 23rd August 2003. The areas covered are Employment Statistics; Employment and Assam and Arunachal Pradesh Assam and Arunachal Pradesh Vocational Training; Combat against HIV/AIDS at workplace; Social Security and Migratory Labour.

24.8 It was also agreed that cooperation would be conducted in providing technical expertise to Mozambique in the field of vocational and technical training programmes. These are: technical assistance to develop and modernize social security system; assist in

formulating policies for migratory labour; fighting against HIV / AIDS at workplace and sharing experience in this field and technical support in the field of statistical system to generate reliable employment and unemployment statistics.

24.9 The MOU further envisaged formation of a Joint Working Group (JWG) to coordinate the implementation of the activities to pursue its objectives. The first meeting of the JWG was held at Maputo in Mozambique during 12-16 April 2004. Indian delegation led by Secretary, Labour and Employment met the Hon'ble Labour Minister of Mozambique H.E. Dr. Mario Sevene and briefed him about the purpose of the visit and Government of India's earnest desire to extend its hand of friendship and cooperation to facilitate the process. H.E. Dr. Sevene welcomed the India Delegation by stating that the visit would further strengthen the long-standing relationship between the two countries. H.E. praised the role of Vocational Training Institutes in India in preparing skilled manpower, which helps in availing emerging employment opportunities and fighting poverty. He felt that upgradation of vocational training facilities in Mozambique is a dire need in which India can help. In response Secretary (L&E) apprised him of the package of assistance Government of India proposes to provide in different fields. In the Employment and Vocational Training field:

(i) India will provide training to 10 Mozambican instructors in India for a period

of 3 months. The Government of Mozambique will identify the fields in which training is required. The international travel cost from Mozambique to India will be borne by the Government of Mozambique. The boarding lodging, local travel, training material and other training cost will be borne by the Government of India.

(ii) Beside, two Indian officials will be sent for two months to Mozambique, one having specialization in the field of employment generation, planning and statistics and other in re-engineering of employment & vocational training to assess the ground requirement in the host country and help preparing an action plan. Their salary in India, international travel cost and out of pocket expenses will be borne by the Government of India. Government of Mozambique will bear the local cost like boarding, lodging, local travel etc.

24.10 The permanent Labour Secretary of Mozambique expressed his utmost satisfaction with regards to deliberations in JWG and conveyed Mozambique Governments acceptance of the proposals offered by the Indian delegation. In response Union Labour Secretary indicated that the Government of Mozambique could consider having 1 or 2 Indian officials at Mozambique or sending 1 or 2 Mozambique officials to India. He further extended invitation to the Mozambique delegation to visit India for attending the second meeting of the JWG, which can be held after about 10-11 months.
