ADDITIONAL PROTOCOL TO THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE REPUBLIC OF INDIA AND THE STATE OF QATAR ON THE REGULATION OF THE EMPLOYMENT OF INDIAN MANPOWER SIGNED ON 11 APRIL 1985

The Governments of the Republic of India and the State of Qatar (the Parties),

Believing in the consolidation of mutual cooperation in the best interests of their citizens,

Desiring to upgrade the labour relations between the two countries and regulating in a comprehensive manner the said relations to provide for the protection and welfare of all categories of labour,

Desiring to update the provisions of the Agreement on the Regulation of the employment of Indian Manpower between the State of Qatar and the Republic of India signed on 11 April 1985,

Have agreed as follows:

Article (1)

The Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs of the State of Qatar and the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs of the Republic of India shall represent the State of Qatar and the Republic of India respectively in all matters relating to the implementation of the Agreement on the Regulation of the Employment of Indian Manpower between the State of Qatar and the Republic of India signed on 11 April 1985.

Article (2)

The Parties shall review from time to time, through the Joint Committee referred to in Article (16) of the Agreement, the possible employment opportunities in the State of Qatar, including the general information regarding development plans in the State of Qatar, projected employment opportunities and needs thereunder for various labour categories or skills, the expected duration of these employment opportunities, when the need thereof ceases and the availability of Indian workers to make use of them.
Article (3)

For the purposes of the application of the provision of Article (8) of the Agreement, the provision of Article (61) of the Labour Law of the State of Qatar, promulgated by the Law No. (14) 2004, shall apply.

Article (4)

The Joint Committee referred to in Article (16) of the Agreement shall meet twice a year, alternately in each of the two States.

Article (5)

The Government of the State of Qatar may, based on its determination of the labour market requirements and need for workers, decide to take procedures to repatriate Indian workers on the expiry of their contracts of employment. It may also decide to take the same procedures before the expiry of the duration of the contracts provided that in this latter case the Government shall ensure that before their repatriation full wages and other entitlements accruing to them under the contracts of employment and under the labour laws of the State of Qatar are paid to them for the entire unavailed period of the contracts.

Article (6)

The Government of the State of Qatar may decide to take procedures to repatriate such Indian workers whose presence in the State of Qatar becomes contrary to public interest or the national security of the State, provided that the Government shall ensure that before their repatriation full wages and other entitlements accruing to them under the contracts of employment and under the labour laws of the State of Qatar are paid to them for the entire unavailed period of the contracts.

Article (7)

The Parties agree to take appropriate steps for the welfare of the Indian workers not within the purview of the labour law of Qatar.
Article (8)

The Parties agree to take appropriate steps to curb practices detrimental to the welfare of Indian workers seeking work or working in the state of Qatar.

Article (9)

This Additional Protocol, which shall be considered as an integral part of the Agreement, shall remain in force for the duration of the Agreement. It shall enter into force from the date of its signature by the authorized representatives of the two Parties.

Done in two original copies in Arabic, Hindi and English, all of which are equally authentic, and in case of difference the English version shall prevail, and signed by the authorized representatives of the two Contracting Parties who, after exchanging their full powers, signed it in New Delhi on 20 November 2007.

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<td>Vayalar Ravi</td>
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