

# ANNUAL REPORT 2011-2012



सत्यमेव जयते

**Government of India**  
Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs



**Expanding the economic engagement of the Indian diaspora with India**



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**Confederation of Indian Industry**

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*The government and people of India recognise and greatly value the important role being played by Indian communities living abroad. We believe that the Indian diaspora has much more to contribute to the building of modern India. We propose to facilitate, encourage and promote this engagement*



**T**his year's Pravasi Bharatiya Divas marks the tenth anniversary of the event which was first held in the year 2003. This decade has been marked by a visible accretion in the influence and impact of the global Indian across the world. We have witnessed a steady growth in their numbers, levels of prosperity and their skills.

The government and people of India recognise and greatly value the important role being played by Indian communities living abroad. We believe that the Indian diaspora has much more to contribute to the building of modern India. We propose to facilitate, encourage and promote this engagement. Over the past year we have taken a number of steps towards this end.

Pursuant to the law that was enacted to enable non-resident Indians to vote in our national elections, the Government has issued notifications for registration of overseas Indians under the Representation of People Act, 1950. This constitutes the first major step to enable Indians resident abroad to participate in our election processes.

In the last session of our Parliament we have introduced a Bill intended to merge and streamline the People of Indian Origin and Overseas Citizen of India schemes by amending the Citizenship Act. This will rectify some of the anomalies in the schemes and provide for an Overseas Indian Card which will be given to foreign spouses of such card holders as well. A large number of workers from Rajasthan are emigrating abroad. We have accordingly established an office of the Protector of Emigrants

in Jaipur. I am told that the Government of Rajasthan proposes to build a Pravasi Bharatiya Bhawan in Jaipur. This Bhawan will house the offices of not only the Protector of Emigrants but also a Migrant Resource Centre to provide on-site help to overseas Indians and emigrating workers.

The Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs is implementing the e-migrate project that will provide end-to-end computerized solutions for all processes in the emigration system. The system will link all key stakeholders on a common platform which will be used by workers, offices of the protector of emigrants, recruitment agencies, immigration officials, employers and the Indian missions abroad.

The scope of our Labour Mobility Partnership Agreements is being expanded to cover not only skilled workers but also students, academics and professionals. Such Human Resource Mobility Partnership agreements are being negotiated with The Netherlands, France, Australia and the European Union.

I am happy to inform you that the government has decided to introduce and sponsor a new Pension and Life Insurance Fund for overseas Indian workers. The scheme will encourage, enable and assist overseas workers to voluntarily save for their return and resettlement and old age. It will also provide a low-cost life insurance cover against natural death. This scheme fulfills a long pending demand of our workers abroad.

*From the Inaugural Address of  
Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh at the  
Pravasi Bharatiya Divas 2012, Jaipur,  
January 8, 2012*





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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 and effective Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs, India has given mainstream attention to its estimated 25 million-strong Overseas Indian community. This experience too has helped us develop appropriate and well-calibrated institutional responses, through bilateral and multilateral engagements, to meet the challenges of capacity-building for better migration management.

### INDIA AND ITS DIASPORA

The Indian Diaspora, as India itself, constitutes a diverse, heterogeneous and eclectic 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. Overseas Indians — comprising People of Indian Origin and Non-Resident Indians, stretching across all oceans and continents — have considerably added to knowledge, innovation and development across the globe by making significant contributions to their countries of residence.

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 coloni-

sation, 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 look at them as a significant strategic resource for India.

Contemporary flows from India are of two kinds. The first is the emigration of the highly skilled professionals, workers and students with tertiary and higher educational qualifications migrating to the most advanced OECD countries, particularly to the USA, UK, Canada, Australia and New Zealand. This flow started after Indian independence in pursuit of better career prospects and living and gathered momentum with the emigration of IT professional in the 1990s. The second was 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, northern states in India like Uttar Pradesh and Bihar have emerged as the leading states of origin.

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 as well as 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 Diasporas, 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 counterpart, benefit both. The same can be said



**The Prime Minister of Trinidad & Tobago, Mrs. Kamla Persad-Bissessar, who was the Chief Guest at PBD-2012 at Jaipur, lighting the ceremonial lamp at the inaugural ceremony. Also seen are Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh and Minister of Overseas Indian Affairs Shri Vayalar Ravi.**

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 comprehensively.

Such engagement has to take into account the fact that the Indian Diaspora, like India itself, is not a homogeneous group of people. And for this reason it needs diverse and distinct approaches to engage them and connect with India. 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 itself as an intrinsically motivated and progressive community.

## 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 a 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, with economic downturns, the barriers to the movement of people also crop up.

In India, the migratory flows of the skilled and the unskilled, both have undergone changes due to the pervasive economic restructuring under globalisation 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 and market-driven systems 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. Within the country itself, the mainstreaming of Diaspora policies remains an issue which engages us.

Following the global economic downturn, the discourse on migration has become victim to populist and ill-informed debate with rising anti-immigrant sentiments spouted by fringe parties in many countries. At a moderate level, it takes up the issue of integration of the overseas community with the host society.

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. Lower skilled migrants, in particular, are often seen as displacing local workers and abusing social welfare systems and this mistrust grows with economic insecurity.

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, largely as a result of problems presented by substantial incoherence between trade and migration regimes (both within and between countries), countries have made relatively limited commitments under Mode 4.

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. To take India as an example, it is as much a major 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 for Minimum

Policy Harmonisation to foster international cooperation amongst countries of origin and destination as for greater policy coherence amongst various departments of government to enhance our ability to manage migration better in medium to long term.

Our approach has been to work towards building a consensus on an end-to-end solution 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. In this context and with our focus on introducing reforms and implementing best practices in migration management, we are 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 matchless. With the second-largest overseas population, its status as the country that receives 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. This places India in a position to help contribute to the international community's efforts to develop an appropriate world migration strategy.

# THE MINISTRY AND ITS MANDATE

## I. INTRODUCTION

The Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs (MOIA) is the quintessential people's agency, a one-stop address for Overseas Indians. Established in 2004 as the 'Ministry of Non-Resident Indians' Affairs, it was renamed 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 Protectorate General of Emigrants. The erstwhile NRI Division of the Ministry of External Affairs now functions as the Diaspora Division in the Ministry.

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 21 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, Kolkata, Mumbai, Cochin, Thiruvananthapuram and Jaipur. The Jaipur office was opened in 2012.

The Ministry has its presence in Abu Dhabi and Washington with 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;
- MOIA to stay small, facilitate activity on the ground, and drive policy changes.

To fulfil its mandate, the focus of the Ministry now



is on 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 (PM-GAC)**, that serves as a high-level body to draw upon the talent of the best Overseas Indian minds wherever they might reside;
- The **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)**, a robust 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 all 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. Given the region and country specific ethos and expectations of the diaspora, 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:

- Overseas Citizenship of India
- Awareness campaign on the risks of illegal migration
- Pravasi Bharatiya Divas
- Know India Programme
- Pravasi Bharatiya Bima Yojana
- Pravasi Bharatiya Kendra
- Scholarship Programme for Diaspora Children
- Overseas Indian Facilitation Centre
- Overseas Workers Resources Centre
- India Development Foundation of Overseas Indians
- E-governance in Emigration

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 and Norway. The Ministry is also negotiating and concluding 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 Poland, The Czech Republic, Norway, Switzerland, Hungary, Sweden and France. It is in the process of finalising an HRMP with The Netherlands.

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 2011-2012

In the past year, India continued to reach out and connect with its vast Diaspora through a host of new 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 third year in a row, estimated at US\$55 billion by the World Bank. The labour outflow from India amounted to 626,000 people in 2011 compared to 610,000 in 2009. The Indian economy, despite turbulence, was set to end the year under review with a real growth of 7 percent in its GDP, an impressive performance given the prevailing global conditions.

The year 2011-2012 has been an eventful and productive year for the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs. The year also saw the Government of India in general and the MOIA in particular take a number of initiatives for the welfare and well-being of the Indian Diaspora while the existing initiatives were further consolidated.

The milestones of the year, in brief, are:

**1.** The Union Government issued notifications for the registration of Overseas Indians (holding Indian passports) under the Representation of People Act, 1950. This constitutes a major step to enable Indian residents abroad to participate in elections back home by making them eligible to vote while in India. This has been a long-pending demand of the Diaspora, notably among those living in the Gulf region, estimated at 5 million.

**2.** The Winter Session of Parliament also saw the Government introduce a Bill to amend the Citizenship Act, 1955, to merge and streamline the cards issued to Overseas Indians under the People of Indian Ori-

gin and Overseas Citizen of India schemes. This will rectify some of the anomalies in the schemes and provide for a single Overseas Indian Card.

**3.** This year MOIA extended the operation of the Indian Community Welfare Fund (ICWF), in operation in Indian Missions in 42 countries, to all Indian Missions in the remaining 157 countries with effect from March 24, 2011 for on-site welfare services of distressed Indians overseas. These services include boarding and lodging, especially for unskilled labourers, emergency medical care, air passage, initial legal assistance, and airlifting the mortal remains or local cremation/burial of the deceased.

**4.** The groundbreaking ceremony for the Pravasi Bharatiya Kendra (PBK) by Hon'ble Minister of Overseas Indian Affairs and Civil Aviation was held on April 28, 2011 to mark the commencement of construction on the 9,800-sqm plot in the diplomatic district of Chanakyapuri in the national capital. The Kendra will be a centre for Overseas Indians, serving as the focal point for activities for mutually rewarding economic, social and cultural engagement between India and its Diaspora. The Kendra will have facilities such as a library, a research centre, meeting rooms, a cultural centre, auditoriums and business centres.

**5.** The Social Security Agreement (SSA) between India and Denmark came into force with effect from May 1, 2011.

**6.** An Indian delegation led by Secretary, MOIA, visited Australia for a second round of negotiation for a Social Security Agreement and to explore the possibility of initiating a negotiation on a Human Resource Mobility Partnership with Australia, from May 2-4, 2011.



**7.** Hon'ble Minister of Overseas Indian Affairs and Civil Aviation made an official visit to USA, Guadeloupe and Trinidad & Tobago and interacted with the Overseas Indian community in USA and Guadeloupe. In Trinidad & Tobago, the Minister attended a Conference titled 'Building a New Partnership between India and the Caribbean: Role of the Diaspora' from May 31 to June 1, 2011 at Port of Spain.

**8.** The Social Security Agreement (SSA) between India and Luxembourg came into force with effect from June 1, 2011.

**9.** A delegation from the Republic of Korea visited New Delhi from June 7-9, 2011 for negotiations on the forms and procedures of the Administrative Arrangement of the SSA signed between India and the Republic of Korea.

**10.** The Pravasi Bharatiya Divas, Canada, was held in Toronto from June 9-10, 2011 at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre on the theme of 'Building Bridges: Positioning Strategies for the Indian Diaspora'. The Governor-General of Canada, Mr. David Johnston, graced the inaugural ceremony on June 9, 2011. The Indian delegation was led by Hon'ble Minister of State, Ministry of External Affairs.

**11.** Mr. William Lacy Swing, Director-General, International Organization for Migration (IOM), Geneva, visited New Delhi from June 13-18, 2011 for discussions on migration related issues between India and IOM.

**12.** An inter-ministerial delegation led by Joint Secretary, MOIA, visited Portugal and Finland for negotiations on SSAs between India and the two countries from May 28 to June 1, 2011 and June 20-22, 2011, respectively.

**13.** The SSA between India and France came into force with effect from July 1, 2011.

**14.** An Indian delegation led by Joint Secretary, MOIA, visited Japan from July 25-29, 2011 for the first round of negotiations for an SSA between India and Japan.

**15.** The Administrative Arrangement of the SSA between India and the Republic of Korea was signed at Seoul on July 25, 2011.

**16.** Secretary, MOIA, and CEO, ICOE, visited IOM, Geneva, from July 27-29, 2011 as a follow-up to the discussions that took place with Director

General, IOM, in New Delhi in June 2011.

**17.** A Norwegian delegation visited New Delhi from August 17-18, 2011 for finalisation of forms for the SSA between India and Norway.

**18.** An Economic Division came into being in 2011 with posting of an Economic Adviser in the Ministry, bringing an economic dimension to policy-formulation at the Ministry.

**19.** An Indian delegation led by Joint Secretary, MOIA, visited Berlin, Germany, from September 1-2, 2011 for the final stage of negotiations on a comprehensive SSA between India and Germany.

**20.** A delegation from United Arab Emirates (UAE) led by Mr. Saqr Ghobash Saeed Ghobash, Minister of Labour, Government of UAE, visited India from September 13-16, 2011. It led to the signing of a revised Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India and the Government of UAE, followed by a Joint Committee Meeting between the two governments at New Delhi on September 13, 2011. The MOIA, in cooperation with the UAE's Ministry of Labour, also decided to implement a web-based attestation procedure for the benefit of Indian workers going to the UAE for employment.

**21.** The Fourth Annual Consultation Meeting with the State Governments was organised by MOIA on September 29-30, 2011 in New Delhi, 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.

**22.** The first meeting of the Parliamentary Consultative Committee was held on October 20, 2011 under the chairmanship of Hon'ble Minister of Overseas Indian Affairs and Civil Aviation to discuss the subject 'Emigration Management and Welfare of Workers Overseas'. Hon'ble Members of Parliament were apprised of the Policy and Regulatory framework of migration management; India's Overseas Employment Policy; Institutional arrangements for the welfare of Overseas Workers; and Social Security Agreements with various countries etc. During the discussions, the Hon'ble Members made many valuable suggestions.

**23.** The scheme to provide assistance to Indian brides deserted by their Overseas Indian or foreigner



husbands was revised in November 2011 by enhancing the scope of coverage as well as grants to help them fight their legal battles. The Ministry also brought out two booklets in this regard. 'Marriages to Overseas Indians' contains information on safeguards available to women deserted by their overseas spouses, the available legal remedies, and the authorities who could be approached under the circumstances. 'Thinking of the Marriage of Your Daughter with an NRI?' lists the precautions to be taken before entering into such a marriage alliance.

**24.** An SSA and Administrative Arrangement with Germany were signed by Shri Vayalar Ravi, Hon'ble Minister for Overseas Indian Affairs and Civil Aviation and Dr. Ursula Von Der Leyen, Federal Minister of Labour and Social Affairs, Germany, on October 12, 2011 at Berlin.

**25.** An Indian delegation, led by Secretary, MOIA, visited Paris from October 13-14, 2011 for negotiations on Partnership relating to Migration and Mobility between India and France.

**26.** A Japanese delegation visited New Delhi from October 17-21, 2011 for a second round of negotiations of between India and Japan.

**27.** The SSA between India and the Republic of Korea came into force with effect from November 1, 2011.

**28.** An Inter-ministerial delegation visited the Czech Republic from October 30 to November 1, 2011 and The Netherlands from November 2-4, 2011, respectively, for finalisation of the SSA forms.

**29.** The Sixth Annual Conference of the Heads of Missions was held from November 25-26, 2011 in New Delhi. The Conference was attended by Heads of Missions of 15 countries, senior officials from other Ministries, and representatives from major labour sending States. In order to broaden the scope of consultations, for the first time, the Heads of Indian Missions from Iraq, Kenya, Nigeria, South Africa, and Tanzania were invited to the Conference.

**30.** A delegation from Finland visited India from November 28-29, 2011 for finalisation of SSA forms between India and Finland.

**31.** The SSA between India and The Netherlands came into force with effect from November 1, 2011.

**32.** A meeting of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on External Affairs was held on Decem-

ber 8, 2011 to brief the Hon'ble Committee on the subject of 'Problems relating to Overseas Indian Marriages/Scheme for providing Legal/Financial Assistance to Indian Women deserted by their Overseas Indian spouses'. The Hon'ble Committee was apprised of the steps taken by the Ministry to broaden the scope of the scheme besides enhancing the grants to provide legal and financial help to such Indian women.

**33.** Exploratory talks for an SSA with Thailand were held in New Delhi on December 26, 2011.

**34.** During the year, three Know India Programmes were arranged with participation of 89 overseas youth of Indian origin.

**35.** Country manuals in respect of Bahrain, Kuwait, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Oman, Qatar and UAE as well as Malaysia were finalised and placed on the website of the Ministry. These manuals, meant for intending emigrant Indian workers, contain general as well as specific information and data about these countries.

**36.** The year saw the launch of the major initiative — the e-Migrate project. This prestigious project seeks to bring in transparency by linking all stakeholders concerned to a single platform and provide fully computerised solutions for all the processes involved in the emigration system. The system will cover workers, offices of the Protector of Emigrants, registered recruitment agencies, immigration officials, employers and Indian Missions. An agreement, at an estimated cost of Rs. 92.67 crore and spread over five years, was initialled with Tata Consultancy Services Limited as the Implementation Agency on December 30, 2011.

**37.** The 10th edition of the Pravasi Bharatiya Divas Convention was held in Jaipur from January 7-9, 2012. The Convention was organised in partnership with the Government of Rajasthan. It was inaugurated by the Prime Minister on January 8, 2012 and the Valedictory Address was delivered by the President on January 9, 2012. The President also conferred the Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Award on 15 distinguished PIOs/NRIs. Mrs. Kamla Persad-Bissessar, Hon'ble Prime Minister of Trinidad & Tobago, graced the event as the Chief Guest.

**38.** Another milestone during the year was a new Pension and Life Insurance Fund (PLIF) announced



during the 10th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India. This scheme, sponsored by MOIA, is meant for Overseas Indian workers with Emigration Check Required (ECR) passports and who have emigrated overseas on a temporary employment/contract visa. The proposed scheme aims to encourage, enable and assist the Overseas Indian migrant workforce to voluntarily save for their return and resettlement and for their old age. The scheme will also provide a low-cost life insurance cover against natural death to target beneficiaries.

**39.** The Pravasi Bharatiya Divas also saw the third meeting of the Prime Minister's Global Advisory Council of Overseas Indians at Jaipur on January 8, 2012. The Prime Minister presided over the meeting attended by his cabinet colleagues, distinguished members of the Council and secretaries to the Government of India. The members appreciated the implementation of their earlier suggestions by the Government of India and put forward many recommendations.

**40.** The office of the POE, Jaipur, was inaugurated by Hon'ble Minister for Overseas Indian Affairs on January 7, 2012. Soon two more POE offices at Guwahati and Rai Bareilly will become functional.

**41.** A meeting of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on External Affairs was held on January 19, 2012 to brief the Hon'ble Committee on the subject 'Welfare Schemes for Indian Workers abroad'. During the course of the briefing on the various schemes/programmes being implemented by MOIA for the welfare of the workers, the Committee was apprised about the proposed Emigration Management Bill.

**42.** A French delegation visited India from January 20-21, 2012 for the second round of negotiations on a partnership on Migration and Mobility between India and France.

**43.** A Japanese delegation visited New Delhi from February 6-10, 2012 for a third round of negotiations on a SSA.

**44.** An Indian delegation led by Joint Secretary, MOIA, visited Germany on February 20-24, 2012 for

finalisation of SSA forms between India and Germany.

The year was not without some setbacks for Indian workers overseas. The Government of India, nevertheless, was quick to respond, not only by issuing travel advisories on some territories, but also in evacuating distressed Indians residing in some of the countries in turmoil.

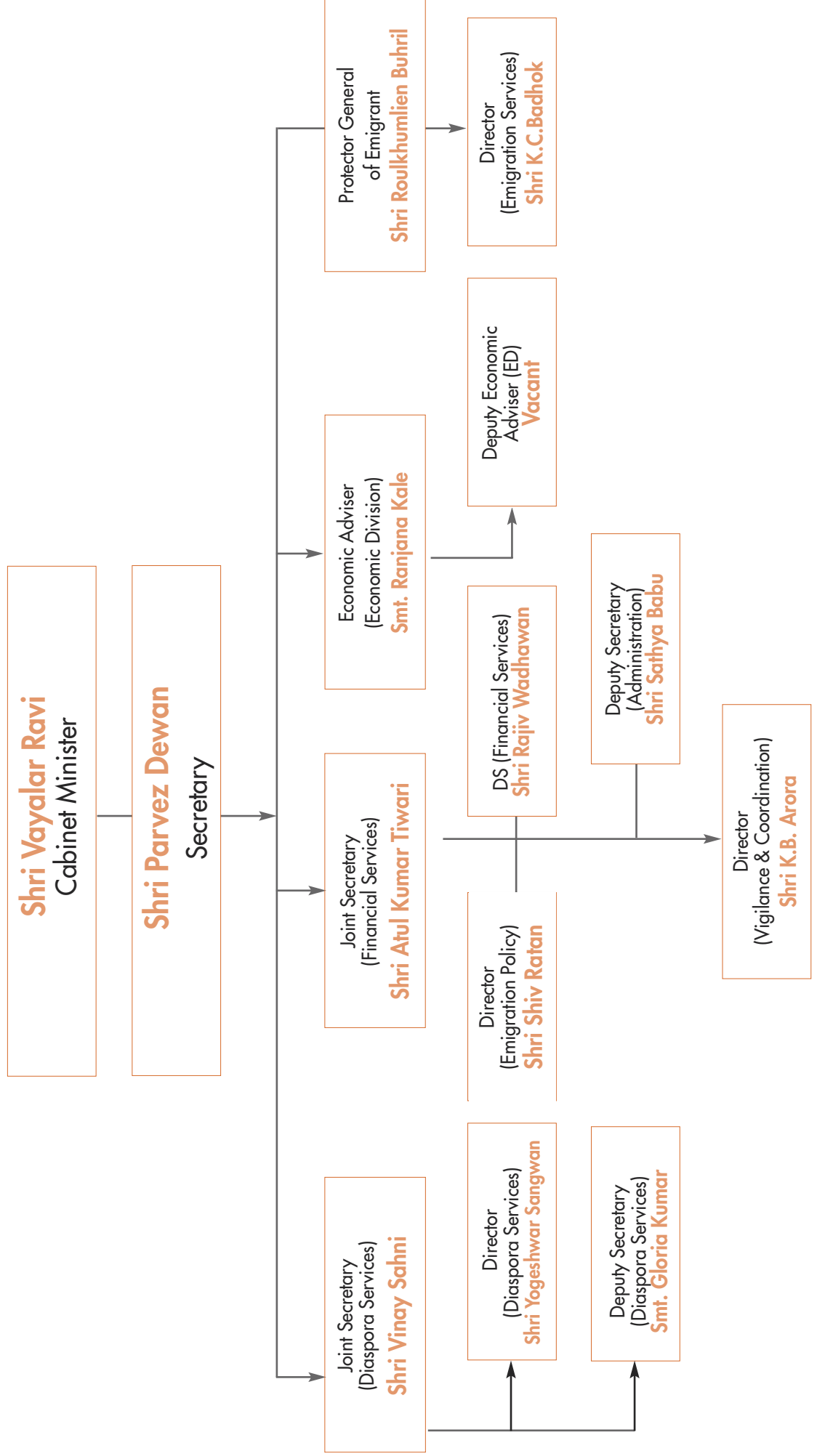
In Bangui, in the Central African Republic, for example, there were reports of some 23 Indian workers, all from Odisha, living in poor and unhygienic conditions. At the intervention of MOIA and the Indian Mission there, all of them were repatriated.

Several steps were also taken to ensure the safety of Overseas Indians during the year. The Government ensured the safe return of over 200 Indians who were aboard the passenger ship 'Costa Concordia' that suffered an accident off the island of Giglio in Italy in January. Earlier, in the light of the situation prevailing in parts of Syria, Indian nationals were advised in January to avoid all non-essential travel to the country till further notice.

This apart, 750 Indian citizens in Egypt, nearly 18,000 in Libya and some 850 in Yemen were given assistance to return to India due to internal disturbances in these countries. Indian evacuees from Libya were provided free of cost services, such as air passage, food, medical care and emergency exit certificates. On arrival in India, they were also provided free transit accommodation besides domestic travel facilities. In the wake of heavy fighting in Côte d'Ivoire (formerly Ivory Coast), over 110 Indians were also evacuated from Abidjan to Accra in Ghana on aircraft chartered by the Government of India.

In fact, the initiative of the Government of India in ensuring the safety and welfare of Indians, notably those living in the Gulf countries and West Asia, did not end with what was called 'Operation Safe Homecoming'. An Inter-Ministerial Committee under the Cabinet Secretary was constituted to make recommendations on issues relating to repatriation, relief and rehabilitation of Indian nationals affected by the developments in these two regions. The Ministry has prepared an Action Plan to implement the recommendations.

# The MOIA Team (2011-12)





# 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, Overseas Citizenship of India matters, Pravasi Bharatiya Divas, Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Awards, Scholarships for NRI/PIO students in India and new initiatives to promote interaction of Overseas Indians with India in tourism, media, youth affairs, education and culture, among other areas.

## I. Voting Rights to Non-Resident Indian (NRIs)

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

## II. Overseas Citizenship of India (OCI)

Keeping in view the Government's deep commitment in engaging PIOs with the land of their ancestors in a mutually beneficial relationship, the 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 of all PIOs as 'Overseas Citizens of India', providing they were citizens of India on or after January 26, 1950 or were eligible to become citizens of India on January 26, 1950 and who are citizens of other countries, except Pakistan and Bangladesh.

2. The Scheme provides for the issue of OCI documents, consisting of an OCI registration certificate and a Universal Visa Sticker to PIOs. The Scheme has been operational since January 2006 and as of February 14, 2012, a total number of 10,29,131 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 the Foreigners Regional Registration Office (FRRO) for any length of stay in India. As mandated under the Allocation of Business Rules of Government of India, MOIA has issued notifications granting registered OCIs further benefits as under:

- (i) Parity with NRIs 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 NRIs in respect of:
  - (a) Entry fee for visiting the national monuments, historical sites and museums in India;
  - (b) Practising the following professions in India, in pursuance of the provisions contained in the relevant Acts, namely:

- (1) Medicine, dentistry, nursing and pharmacy;
- (2) Law;
- (3) Architecture; and
- (4) 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'. It also does not confer political rights. Detailed instructions and procedures concerning the OCI Scheme are available at the MHA's website: [www.mha.nic.in](http://www.mha.nic.in).

An online 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, address/occupation, and loss/damage of OCI registration certificate/visa.

It is proposed to merge the PIO Card and OCI Card scheme and to call it Overseas Indian Card Scheme. A Bill in this regard is under consideration of the Parliament.

### III. Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (PBD)

The Pravasi Bharatiya Divas Convention has been the flagship event of the Ministry organised 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 10th edition of the PBD was held in Jaipur from January 7-9, 2012. The Convention was organised in partnership with the Government of Rajasthan. It was inaugurated by the Prime Minister on January 8, 2012 and the Valedictory Address was delivered by the President on January 9, 2012. The President also conferred the Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Award on 15 distinguished PIOs/NRIs. Kamla Persad-Bissessar, the Prime Minister of Trinidad & Tobago, was the Chief Guest.

The three-day Convention saw a record participation of 2014 delegates. These included 13 Members of the Prime Minister's Global Advisory Council and 3 PIO Ministers, besides Union Ministers and Chief Ministers and other Indian and PIO dignitaries.

The Ministry's flagship was widely acclaimed as

a grand success both for its organisational and substantive aspects as well as for the choice of speakers and the topicality of the themes chosen for deliberations at its various sessions. The three pre-convention seminars on Solar Energy, Water and Healthcare drew enthusiastic participation of all stakeholders and came in for appreciation from several quarters. Separately, there was a special session on Youth where eminent Overseas Indians shared their success stories with the youth of Rajasthan.

The Convention had four Plenary Sessions:

- Inclusive Growth: Two decades of Economic Liberalisation
- Business session: Partnering for Prosperity
- Shared connectivity: Message of Mahatma Gandhi
- Global Indian: State Initiatives and Opportunities

There were five specific sessions on: Diaspora and Development, Driving Innovation, Meeting with Diaspora Organisations, Town Hall on Youth Connectivity, Conclave on Gender and a session on Gulf. In addition, there were separate State sessions and the PBD Oration by Prof. Kishore Mahbubani of the National University of Singapore.

### HIGHLIGHTS of PBD 2012

- Record participation of 2014 delegates
- Attendance by a host of dignitaries from abroad
- Four Plenary Sessions, five Concurrent Sessions and separate State Sessions
- Three pre-convention Seminars on Solar Energy, Water and Healthcare
- A pre-convention Seminar on Youth for the youth of Rajasthan
- Unveiling of the website of the India Development Foundation by the Hon'ble Prime Minister

The Overseas Indian Facilitation Centre (OIFC) at the annual Pravasi Bharatiya Divas 2012 in seeking to help expand the PBD delegates' engagement with India, conducted business with a difference. The OIFC's activities at the PBD were: the Market Place Forum which sought to build relationships between OIFC's Partner Indian States, Knowledge Experts in various domains and PBD delegates in a relaxed environment conducive to business discus-



sions; the publication of a journal 'Now Returning Indians' for the benefit of the delegates; a forum for addressing queries from PBD delegates; an OIFC interview survey to understand the expectations and concerns of Overseas Indians; and, a Global INK stall at the Market Place, which bagged the attention of over 1,200 delegates. OIFC also facilitated a high-level interaction of global Indians hailing from Canada with the Gujarat Government and an MoU was signed with Chambre de Commerce et d'Industrie de La Reunion aimed to expand the economic engagement of the Indian Diaspora in The Reunion with India. In addition, OIFC also connected with over 200 Overseas Indians who participated in the GOPIO International annual conference held in Jaipur on January 6, 2012.

#### IV. Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Awards (PBSA)

The Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Award (PBSA) is conferred on NRIs, PIOs or Organisations or Institutions established and run by NRIs or PIOs, who have excelled in their respective fields and have helped enhance India's prestige in their countries of residence and who have made: (i) significant contribution towards a better understanding abroad of India and support to India's causes and concerns in a tangible way; (ii) appreciable contribution to the welfare of the Diaspora; (iii) notable contribution to philanthropic and charitable work and to social and humanitarian causes in India and abroad; (iv) substantial contribution towards building closer links between India and its Diaspora in the economic, cultural and scientific fields; and, (v) for achieving eminence in their skills, thereby enhancing India's prestige in that country (for non-professional workers).

Conferred by the President of India as part of the PBD Convention, PBSA is the highest honour conferred on Overseas Indians. PBSA-2012 was conferred on the following:

1. Mrs. Kamla Persad-Bissessar
2. Mr. Kiran Navinchandra Asher
3. Mr. Hassan Abdulkarim Chougule
4. Mrs. Khorshed Noshir Ginwala-Rustomjee
5. Ms. Kalpalatha Kummamuri Guntupalli

6. Prof. Surendra Kumar Kaushik
7. Mr. Prakash Lohia
8. Mr. S.R. Nathan
9. Mr. Jose Parayanken
10. Mr. Radhakrishna P.K.V. Pillai
11. Mr. Sachchidanand Sahai
12. Mr. Rajesh Kumar Saraiya
13. Mr. Deepak Naraindas Shivdasani
14. Mr. Victor Shahed Smetacek
15. Indo-Canada Chamber of Commerce

#### V. PBD Canada

PBD Canada, the fifth in the series of Overseas/Regional PBDs, was a resounding success. It was held in Toronto from June 9-10, 2011 at Metro Toronto Convention Center. The Governor-General of Canada, David Johnston, graced the inaugural ceremony on June 9, 2011. The Premier of Ontario, Dalton McGuinty, also attended and spoke at the inaugural function. Several members of the Canadian Parliament as well as Ministers of the Ontario Government also attended. The Indian delegation was led by Preneet Kaur, Minister of State, Ministry of External Affairs. The theme of the Convention was 'Building Bridges: Positioning Strategies for the Indian Diaspora'. The inaugural session was attended by nearly 1,000 delegates, the largest-ever participation in any regional PBD.



Prime Minister Mrs. Kamla Persad-Bissessar of Trinidad & Tobago receiving the Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Award from President Smt. Pratibha Devisingh Patil at the Jaipur PBD on January 9, 2012.

## VI. KNOW INDIA PROGRAMME (KIP)

The objective of the Ministry's Know India Programme is to help familiarise 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 develop closer bonds with the contemporary India. The Ministry has conducted 19 KIPs so far and a total of 591 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 up to 90 percent of economy class return air-fare from their respective countries 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 developments and visit to industrial complexes
- (d) A visit to a village for a better understanding of typical village life in India
- (e) Exposure to Indian media and cinema
- (f) Interaction with NGOs and organisations dealing with women's issues

- (g) Visits to places of historical importance or monuments
- (h) Participation in cultural programmes
- (i) Exposure to Yoga
- (j) Calling 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.

The 17th KIP was held in partnership with the State of Punjab from April 28 to May 18, 2011. Twenty-four participants from seven countries took part in it. The 18th KIP was held in partnership with the State of Rajasthan from September 21 to October 11, 2011 in which 28 overseas youths of Indian origin from six countries took part. The 19th KIP was held in partnership with the State of Rajasthan, from December 21, 2011 to January 10, 2012 in which 37 participants from 11 countries participated. The participants also attended Pravasi Bharatiya Divas 2012.

The Ministry has conducted 19 KIPs so far and a total of 591 overseas Indian youth have participated in these programmes.

The Ministry also hosted 11 participants of the 4th Know Goa Programme (KGP) for the Delhi and Agra part of the programme in December 2011. The Know Goa Programmes are organised by the Government of Goa for NRI/PIO youths whose forefathers migrated from Goa and are presently residing overseas.



Members of the 19th Know India Programme on a field trip.





## VII. 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 worth up to US\$5,000 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 implemented by Educational Consultants India Limited (Ed.CIL), a Government of India enterprise under the Ministry of Human Resource Development (HRD). The scheme is open to NRIs/PIOs/OCIs from 40 countries with a substantial Indian Diaspora population. A total number of 468 candidates have availed of the scholarship since its inception. Following a review of the SPDC scheme, it has been decided to do away with the Common Entrance Test (CET) for selecting PIO/OCI and NRI students for the scholarships. Applications from students who meet the eligibility criteria are evaluated and shortlisted by a committee consisting of officers from the Ministry of HRD, Ed.CIL and MOIA.

## VIII. PROBLEMS RELATING TO OVERSEAS INDIAN MARRIAGES

Issues related to desertion of Indian women by their overseas spouses are complex and sensitive. They also fall within the purview of private international law. In addressing these issues, the Ministry has sought to create awareness among 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 the following steps in this direction during the year 2011-12:

### I. Scheme for providing legal/financial assistance to Indian women deserted by their overseas spouses:

The objective of the scheme is to provide financial assistance to needy Indian women who were either deserted/divorced by their overseas spouses and help them in getting access to counselling and legal

services. The counselling and legal services are provided through credible Indian women's organisations/Indian community associations and NGOs empanelled with the Indian Missions /Posts in countries like USA, UK, Canada, Australia, New Zealand and the Gulf. A list of such associations/NGOs is at **Annexure E**.

II. The scheme has been revised with effect from November 30, 2011 and its scope has been widened (in italics) as under:

- The marriage of the woman has been solemnised in India or *overseas, with an Indian or a foreigner national*.
  - The woman is deserted in India or overseas, within *15 years* of the marriage.
  - Divorce proceedings are initiated within *15 years* of the marriage by her overseas Indian/*foreigner husband*.
  - An ex-parte divorce has been obtained by the overseas Indian/*foreigner husband* within *20 years* of marriage and a case for maintenance and alimony is to be filed.
  - Benefit under the scheme would not be available to a woman who has had a criminal case decided against her, provided that a charge of Parental Child Abduction shall not be a bar if the custody of the child has not yet been adjudicated upon.
  - Limit of assistance under the scheme has been increased to US\$3,000 per case in developed countries and US\$2,000 per case in developing countries, to be released to the empanelled Legal Counsel of the applicant or Indian community association/women's organisation/NGO concerned, as initial legal aid for documentation and preparatory work for filing the case.
- III. Under the scheme, Indian Missions in the countries concerned empanel credible Indian women's organisations or Indian community associations/NGOs and their member advocates, preferably women, to provide legal aid to victims whose names have been approved by MOIA for assistance.
- IV. So far, 26 NGOs have been empanelled by the Indian Missions/Posts abroad and a sum of Rs. 43,31,887 has been disbursed by Indian Missions to empanelled NGOs and 81 Indian women have been helped under the scheme.

# MIGRATION MANAGEMENT

## I. HIGHLIGHTS OF 2011-12

The year 2011-12 was eventful and productive for the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs. While building on its gains, MOIA also made progress on several fronts as shown below:

- The Indian Community Welfare Fund (ICWF), earlier operational at Indian Missions in 42 countries, was extended to all Indian Missions in the remaining 157 countries in order to help cover the contingency expenditure incurred by those missions in carrying out welfare activities for overseas Indian citizens in distress.
- The 4th Annual Consultation with the State Governments was held in New Delhi from September 29-30, 2011 to discuss issues relating to emigration and how best the Ministry could partner with state governments to provide necessary support in effectively addressing the concerns of Overseas Indians.
- The 6th Annual Conference of the Heads of Missions of Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries as well as Jordan, Yemen, Malaysia, Maldives, Nigeria, Tanzania, Kenya, South Africa and Iraq was held from November 25-26, 2011 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, Ker-

ala, Karnataka, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh.

- The scope of work of the OWRC Helpline has been enhanced to provide walk-in counselling, the development of an interactive website, namely, [www.owrc.in](http://www.owrc.in) with effect from December



Hon'ble Minister of Overseas Indian Affairs Shri Vayalar Ravi speaking at the 4th Annual Consultation with State Governments held in New Delhi from September 29-30, 2011.



31, 2010. Complaints can now be lodged through the OWRC website and via email. The centre has been integrated with MRCs at Kochi and Hyderabad.

## II. LEGISLATIVE REFORMS

The Ministry has taken a fresh look at the entire emigration system as enshrined in the Emigration Act, 1983 and the Emigration Rules, particularly with reference to the need for redefining the scope of regulation, redesigning the emigration process, 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 modernise the legislative framework that governs emigration of Indians for overseas employment. It has, therefore, been considered necessary that the Emigration Act and the Emigration Rules be comprehensively overhauled to convert them into effective instruments for facilitation of legal migration, prevention of irregular migration, and empowerment of emigrants.

MOIA proposed the introduction of the Emigration Management Bill (EMB), 2011 in Parliament and the repeal of the existing Emigration Act, 1983. The proposed Bill embodies a paradigm shift in the management of emigration. The proposed Bill will help modernise 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 crimes such as human smuggling.

The Ministry has done away with the requirement of 'ECR Suspension' to enable Emigration Clearance Required (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 liberalised 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 17 ECR countries. All other 175 countries have been notified as ECNR countries.

## III. E-GOVERNANCE IN EMIGRATION (E-MIGRATE) 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 economic process. It would result in significant improvements in the quality of services provided to emigrant workers since it would simplify different processes in the emigration cycle and improve overall effectiveness. The e-Migrate Project will provide a comprehensive electronic platform, linking all stakeholders with minimum human intervention and automated implementation of the emigration process (as required under the Emigration Act, 1983), with real-time access to relevant information and data to all concerned. It is logical to assume that this project will, to a great extent, help reduce corruption, malpractices and irregular migration and thereby facilitate legal and orderly migration. It is necessary to mention that the e-Migrate Project will complement the new Emigration Management Bill whenever it is enacted. It is for the above reasons that this project needs to be implemented as early as possible.

The project involves full automation of the offices of the Protector of Emigrants and Protector General of Emigrants, phased interlinking with recruiting agents, employers, immigration counters, Indian missions abroad, insurance companies and state governments etc., and integration of labour market information with policy decisions through an appropriate MIS. The project would develop integrated modules on recruiting-agent systems, emigration clearance systems, immigration control systems, complaint management systems, RA rating systems and the contract attestation systems. Smart cards would be issued to emigrants under the project after examining all the pros and cons to ensure that the benefits are commensurate with the cost to the emigrant.

A Master Service Agreement (MSA) has been signed between the Government of India and the Implementing Agency of the project. The project is scheduled for completion within 58 weeks from the date of signing of the Agreement.



Shri Vayalar Ravi, Hon'ble Minister of Overseas Indian Affairs and Civil Aviation and H.E. Saqr Ghobash Saeed Ghobash, Hon'ble Minister of Labour, UAE, signing a revised MoU with the UAE on September 13, 2011 at New Delhi.

#### IV. BILATERAL MEMORANDA OF UNDERSTANDING ON LABOUR

India had signed labour MoUs with Jordan and Qatar in the 1980s. However, no further progress was made in this direction for many years. The Ministry, after its creation in 2004, has made concerted efforts to enter into bilateral MoUs with all 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 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 November 20, 2007. Efforts are underway to sign MOUs with Yemen and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA).

A revised MoU on labour was signed with the UAE on September 13, 2011 in New Delhi by Shri Vayalar Ravi, Hon'ble Minister of Overseas

Indian Affairs and Civil Aviation, and HE Saqr Ghobash Saeed Ghobash, Hon'ble Minister of Labour, UAE. The following broad principles have been built into these MoUs:

- (i) Declaration of mutual intent to enhance employment opportunities and bilateral cooperation in protection and welfare of workers.
- (ii) Host country to take measures for protection and welfare of the workers in the organised sector.
- (iii) Statement of the broad procedures that foreign employers shall follow to recruit Indian workers.
- (iv) The recruitment and terms of employment to be in conformity with the laws of both the countries.
- (iv) 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 under way to sign MoUs with Yemen, Libya and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

Regular meetings of the JWG are important for resolution of bilateral labour issues arising from time to time and also for monitoring the implementation of the MoU. The JWG serves as a platform to deal with





a variety of issues, such as model contracts, 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 problem relating to the work contract format with Kuwait. Similarly, a model labour contract is being finalised by the India-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 a second and third round of JWG with Kuwait in February 2010 and January 2012; with UAE in September 2011; with Malaysia in December 2011, and with Kuwait in a very cordial atmosphere.

## V. 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.

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 globalisation of economies. A Human Resources Mobility Partnership or HRMP can lay down an effective framework for bilateral cooperation for maximising the benefits from labour mobility and minimising 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 situation for the countries of origin, the countries of destination and the migrant workers themselves. It is in this context that MOIA is taking steps to build HRMPs with key countries of destination in the European Union. Such a mobility partnership has been

signed with Denmark. While a similar process is in the final stages with The Netherlands and France; it is under way with Australia, Germany, Italy, Mauritius, and the European Union. The Ministry also proposes to enter into similar partnerships with Belgium, Poland, Romania, Norway, Sweden, Romania and the Czech Republic.

As India and EU countries have complementary needs, the proposed HRMPs 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 HRMPs by protecting workers against dual contributions to 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 EU Member States in the area of international labour migration.

## VI. 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 for 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 (proposed to be reduced to 10 employees soon). All employers and employees in such establishments or any of the establishments notified as one among 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 contributions in the home country as per local laws, they are compelled to pay a 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 contributions 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 laws 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 owing to the high rate of social security taxation, double taxation erodes the competitive edge of companies on both sides.

Bilateral SSAs can, on a reciprocal basis, protect the interests of such workers by exempting the posted workers from social security contributions 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 pen-

sion in the 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 a totalisation 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 SSAs with Belgium, France, Germany (Social Insurance), Switzerland, Luxembourg, The Netherlands, Hungary, Denmark, The Czech Republic, Republic of Korea, Germany (comprehensive SSA) and Norway. These agreements provide for the following benefits to professionals, skilled workers and corporates on a reciprocal basis:

1. Those posted for up to 60 months will be exempted from social security contributions under the host country law provided they continue to make social security payments in the home country.



**Shri Vayalar Ravi, Hon'ble Minister of Overseas Indian Affairs and Civil Aviation and H.E. Dr. Ursula Von Der Leyen, Federal Minister of Labour and Social Affairs, Germany, exchanging Social Security Agreement and Administrative Arrangement documents on October 12, 2011 at Berlin.**



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 totalised 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.

Similar agreements have been finalised with Austria, Canada, Finland, Portugal and Sweden and these are expected to be signed shortly. Negotiations are in progress with Australia and Italy while three rounds of negotiations have taken place with Japan. It is likely that SSA with Japan would be concluded during next calendar year. Two rounds of exploratory talks have been held with the USA and the matter is being pursued with the USA as well as UK.

## VII. INDIAN COUNCIL OF OVERSEAS EMPLOYMENT (ICOE)

The rapidly globalising world is characterised by competition amongst the labour sending countries for optimising benefits from the international labour migration. There is, therefore, 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 to meet the expectations of the Overseas Indian Workers (OIW) as a significant constituency across the world.

In order to make Indian workers globally competitive, an urgent need was felt 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 Indian youth.
- (ii) Positioning of potential OIWs 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, therefore, established the 'Indian Council of Overseas Employment', as a Society under the Societies Registration Act of 1860. The Council 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 and central government nominees. It provides the broad policy framework for the programmes and activities of the Council in consonance with its objectives. The day-to-day management of the Council is vested with the Executive Directorate headed by the Chief Executive Officer of the Council.

The Council performs the following 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 programmes for skills development and skills upgrade 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 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 the international labour market, problems faced by emigrant Indian workers in India and abroad, benchmark the best practices of other labour sending countries, and recommend policy initiatives/strategies.

The Council functions at an 'arm's-length' from the Government and has the autonomy and flexibility to build strong public-private partnerships, engage proactively in capacity building across stakeholder segments and implement well calibrated strategies for better market access for Indian workers so that they benefit from overseas employment opportunities in the medium to long term.



The Council has signed an MoU with the European University Institute for Research on Migration of Labour between EU and India and an MoU with Hellenic Migration Policy Institute, Athens. An India-EU Scientific Group on Migration Policy has been formed and two meetings have already been held in Florence and Bangalore. Earlier, ICOE also launched a scheme of Research Internship Programme with JNU and Bangalore University.

The Council has also launched a Skill Development Initiative in the North East for Potential Migrants from the North-Eastern States of India in August 2011. This will provide gainful employment opportunities for the youth and women from all the eight states of the North-East of India. The Ministry is the principal anchor of this project. The International Organisation for Migration has been identified to implement this prestigious project under the guidance of ICOE. The Knowledge Partners (KPs) include India Skills and Aspire.

Under the project, seven international vocational qualifications (IVQs) will be developed with focus on short, relevant and effective modules that will help potential migrants in the overseas job markets. The IVQs will cover hospitality, healthcare and education sectors, training 10,000 youth including women. The project will work on the basis of two franchisee and university embedded models which 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.

## VIII. 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 institutionalised with emphasis on delivery of innovative, financially sustainable social security and support services to 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 ICWF aims to provide the following services on a means tested basis in the most deserving cases:

- Boarding and lodging for distressed Overseas Indian workers in household/domestic sectors and unskilled labourers;
- Extending emergency medical care to Overseas Indians in need;
- Providing air passage to stranded Overseas Indians in need;
- Providing initial legal assistance to Overseas Indians in deserving cases;
- Expenditure on incidentals and for airlifting mortal remains to India or local cremation/burial of 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.

As on December, 2011, a total of 14,767 Overseas Indians have received assistance from ICWF.

## IX. INFORMATION DISSEMINATION ON LEGAL MIGRATION

One of the problems faced by 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. The ignorance of intending emigrants is exploited by unscrupulous intermediaries.

To overcome this difficulty, the Ministry launched the **Overseas Workers Resource Centre (OWRC)** to provide information and assistance to intending emigrants and family members of overseas workers relating to all aspects of overseas employment. The OWRC was inaugurated by the Prime Minister of India at the 6th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas in New Delhi in January 2008. The OWRC operates a 24/7 toll-free helpline (1800 11 3090) to provide need based information to emigrants and their fam-



ilies. The workers can also access the helpline from anywhere in the world at 91-11-40503090. With a view to extending the services to support Indian emigrants an international toll-free line (8 000 911 913) has been established which is currently available for calls from UAE alone. Complaints or grievances received on the toll-free helpline are promptly attended to and feedback provided to the complainant. The helpline numbers are given out as part of the multimedia awareness campaign organised by the Ministry. During the calendar year, a total number of 24,556 calls were received.

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

The OWRC also trains personnel from different MRCs to train them to handle the Call Flow System which helps emigrants to utilise knowledge in the best possible manner.

The scope of work of the OWRC Helpline has been enhanced to provide walk-in counselling, the development of an interactive website, namely, [www.owrc.in](http://www.owrc.in) with effect from December 31, 2010. Complaints can now be lodged through the OWRC website and via email. The centre has been integrated with MRCs at Kochi and Hyderabad.

## **X. CONSULTATION MEETING WITH STATE GOVERNMENTS**

The 4th Annual Consultation with State Governments was held in New Delhi from September 29-30, 2011 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 under active consideration of the Ministry. These recommendation cover areas, such as like skill-gaps analysis; training and pre-de-

parture orientation; learning from best practices; measures to help Overseas Indian workers in a co-ordinated manner; promotion of investments from Overseas Indians in the States; and, standardisation of procedures in Indian Missions abroad etc. The Ministry is collaborating with the States in formulating integrated procedures and setting up focal points in the States to deal with matters relating to migration; finding appropriate space to host MRCs and POE offices; updating databases of district-level functionaries so that Missions can effectively solve problems faced by Overseas Indians in India; launching awareness campaigns; networking with government recruiting agencies; and incorporating appropriate information on the pitfalls of irregular migration into school curriculum.

## **XI. ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF HEADS OF MISSIONS**

The 6th Annual Conference of the Heads of Mission (HOM) was held on November 25-26, 2011 in New Delhi. The Conference was attended by the Heads of Mission of 15 countries, senior officials from other ministries, and representative from major labour sending states. In order to broaden the scope of consultations, the Heads of Mission from Iraq, Kenya, Nigeria, South Africa and Tanzania were also invited to the conference for the first time. Many useful recommendations were made during the Conference, most of them on ways and means of assisting Overseas Indians in distress in a timely and effectively manner by enlarging the scope of ICWF. Other recommendations included the need to hold JWG meetings under labour MoUs besides pursuing MoUs with other countries in the region; conducting conferences of Foreign Employers in India; firming up an implementation plan for the proposed PLIF scheme; the need to proactively implement schemes relating to Indian women victims of fraudulent marriages; and, updating databases of Overseas Indians, among others.

## **XII. PENSION AND LIFE INSURANCE FUND (PLIF)**

On January 4, 2012, the Government approved a



The Sixth Annual Heads of Missions Conference, presided over by Hon'ble Minister of Overseas Indian Affairs Shri Vayalar Ravi in New Delhi from November 25-26, 2011, in progress.

new scheme for Overseas Indian workers with ECR passports and who have emigrated overseas on a temporary employment/contract visa. The proposed scheme aims to encourage, enable and assist the Overseas Indian migrant workforce to voluntarily save for their return and resettlement (R&R) and for their old age. The scheme will also provide a low-cost life insurance cover against natural death to target beneficiaries. The salient features of the scheme include:

- Provision of a co-contribution benefit of Rs.1,000 per year for a period of five years by the Government on the lines of 'Swavalamban' to all Overseas Indian workers who voluntarily save in NPS-Lite;
- Provision of a special additional pension co-contribution benefit of Rs.1,000 per year for a period of five years by the Government on the lines of Swavalamban to all Overseas Indian women workers who voluntarily save in the NPS-Lite;
- Provision of an R&R co-contribution of up to Rs.1,000 per year for a period of five years by

the Government to encourage Overseas Indian workers to voluntarily accumulate savings for their return and resettlement in India, and payment of such incentives and promotion charges to the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority for payment to the aggregator and Point of Presences (POPs) at a rate decided by MOIA, to maximise enrolments under the Scheme. The implementation plan for operationalising the new pension system is being worked out. It has been proposed to carry out a soft launch in Kerala and UAE on May 1, 2012 and subsequently launch it all over India on August 15, 2012.

### **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 authorised user IDs and passwords.

The attestation procedure will include registration of employers, online filling of demand, online receipt of documents from Indian Missions, filling up of details of employees selected, and finally emigration clearance by the POE. The procedure 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.

# PROTECTOR GENERAL OF EMIGRANTS

## I. OPERATIONAL FRAMEWORK

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

The Emigration Act, 1983, which came into effect from December 30, 1983 embodies the guidelines enunciated by the Supreme Court of India in its judgment and order dated March 20, 1979 (Kanga Vs. Union of Indian & 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 employers	– Sections 15-21
4. Mandatory emigration clearance	– Sections 22
5. Emigration offences and penalties	– Sections 24-26
6. Power to exempt certain countries or employers	– Section 41

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

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

Section 16 of the Emigration Act, 1983 lays down that recruitment for overseas employment can be done either by a recruiting agent by obtaining a Registration Certificate from the Registering authority or by an employer directly by obtaining a permit from the Competent Authority. The PGE has been empowered by the Central Government to also function as the Registering Authority to regulate recruitment through recruiting agents and as the Competent Authority to regulate direct recruitment by employers. Recruiting agents are required to obtain a Demand Letter, a Power of Attorney and a Specimen Employment Contract (all in original) from 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 the case of the vulnerable categories of workers — unskilled labour and women emigrants — the employment documents are required to be attested by the Indian Mission concerned.

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. However, 13 categories of persons have been exempted from this requirement (**Annexure B**). Such persons are entitled to the Emigration Check Not Required passport (ECNR passport). Broadly,



any person who has passed Class X is entitled to an ECNR passport. An ECNR passport holder does not need any emigration clearance for going to any country. Further, even those holding an Emigration Clearance Required (ECR) passport (bearing the ECR stamp) are exempted from emigration check formalities while going to 175 countries, which are termed as ECNR countries (**Annexure C**). There are only 17 ECR countries for which emigration check is required (only for ECR passport holders). Emigration Clearance to Libya and Yemen has been suspended because of domestic turmoil in these two countries.

## PRAVASI BHARATIYA BIMA YOJNA

Insurance of the intending emigrant under the Pravasi Bharatiya Bima Yojna (PBBY) is compulsory for emigration clearance. The PBBY has been further modified in 2008 reducing the premium rates from the Rs.450 to Rs.275 and Rs.375 for two and three years policy period respectively. The emigrant workers get a minimum insurance cover of Rs. 10 lakhs (instead of Rs. 5 lakhs and the policy is for the entire period of employment contract of 2/3 years respectively. The reduced premium along with other benefits have been made effective from April 1, 2008.

Item	PBBY 2008
Maximum sum for which insured under the PBBY	Rs.10 lakh
Hospitalization (Medical Expenses) covering injuries/sickness/ailment/diseases	Rs.75,000
Repatriation covers for medically unfit	Actual one-way economy class air fare
Family Hospitalisation in India	Rs. 50,000
Maternity	Rs. 25,000
Attendant	Actual One way economy class air fare
Legal expenses	Rs. 30,000
Actual Premium to be charged (without any hidden costs)	Rs. 275 for 2 years policy period Rs. 375 for 3 years policy period (+ taxes)

## II. TRENDS IN EMIGRATION

There are about 5 million overseas Indian workers all over the world. More than 90 percent of these workers are in the Gulf countries and South East Asia. During 2011, about 626,565 workers emigrated from India with emigration clearance. Out of this, about 289,297 went to Saudi Arabia, 138,861 to UAE, 73,819 to Oman, 41,710 to Qatar, and 17,947 to Malaysia. Uttar Pradesh, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Bihar were the leading sourcing states.

The major outflow of emigrant workers in the last few years from India has been to the Gulf countries where about 4 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 the expiry of their

contractual employment. There has been a consistent and steady increase in the number of people emigrating for employment abroad from the year 2004 onwards till 2008. The year 2009, however, registered a downtrend in the number of emigrants by about 28 percent as compared to the previous year. In the year 2010, there was a slight increase at 641,356, which again fell to 626,565 in 2011. The number of emigration clearances granted by the eight offices of the Protector of Emigrants stood at 848,601 in 2008 and 610,272 in 2009. The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia is the main destination for Indian workers, followed by the UAE. Outside the Gulf region, the intake of Indian manpower by Malaysia recorded a significant and consistent increase till 2005. However, this has considerably declined from 2006 onwards.

Employment for Indian workers in the above said countries holds great potential. The number of workers given emigration clearance for contractual em-

ployment abroad during the last six years and the data thereof on distribution of labour outflows are detailed in **Tables A, B and C.**

### III. 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 D.** It may be observed that there has been a steady increase in remittances from US\$15.8 billion in 2001-02 to US\$55.9 billion in 2010-11. Country-wise information on remittances is not available. However, it is estimated that a significant proportion of remittances is contributed by the increasing number of unskilled and semi-skilled Indian workers employed in the Gulf countries and Malaysia.

### IV. REGISTRATION OF RECRUITING AGENTS

The Emigration Act, 1983 (Section 10) requires that those who wish to recruit Indian citizens for employment abroad for categories of work specified under Section 2(i)(0) shall register themselves with the PGE. The fee prescribed (Rule 7) 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 Protector-General of Emigrants and can also be downloaded from [www.moia.gov.in](http://www.moia.gov.in). The applicant is required to deposit a bank guarantee for an amount of Rs. 20,00,000.

The registration of Recruiting Agents under the Emigration Act, 1983 began from January 1984, and as of December 31, 2011, there were 1,533 recruiting agents. This figure includes nine State Manpower Export Corporations established in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Delhi, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Punjab, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh. However, there are major concentrations of Recruiting Agents in Mumbai, Delhi, Chennai and Kerala.

### V. ENFORCEMENT AND REDRESS OF GRIEVANCES

Complaints about exploitation of Overseas Indian workers often pertain to non-payment/delayed payment of wages, unilateral changes in contracts, arbitrary change of jobs/job profiles 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, also become a liability on our Missions.

In such instances, the PGE steps in and asks the Recruiting Agent concerned to get the workers repatriated at his expense. If the Recruiting Agent fails to do so, action is taken to suspend/cancel his registration and he stands to forfeit his Bank Guarantee, which is then used to pay for the repatriation expenses.

Complaints against Recruiting Agents are enquired into with the help of POEs and the Indian Missions concerned. Complaints against un-registered agents are referred to the police authorities concerned for investigation and action under 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. Complaints against foreign employers are taken up with Indian Missions and if felt necessary, the employer is blacklisted.

Prosecution sanctions were issued in 14 cases in 2011 based on police reports. It is relevant to mention here that a prosecution sanction from the Central Government is not required if the complaint against the un-registered agent is made by an emigrant/intending emigrant or their relatives.

### VI. SIMPLIFICATION OF PROCEDURES

- The number of ECR countries was reduced to 18 from the earlier 153 countries in December 2006. The number has been further reduced to 17 with effect from August 12, 2008.
- Earlier, powers granted to POEs for bulk worker permissions were very limited. This was liberalised in May 2007. Now the Deputy Secretary-level POEs in Delhi, Mumbai and Chennai have been delegated full powers without limits to grant worker permissions. Under Secretary-level POEs in Hyder-





abad and Trivandrum have been delegated powers up to 500 permissions and Section Officer-level POEs in Chandigarh, Kolkata and Cochin up to 300.

- From January 2008, migration Clearance Books (EC Books) are being issued to recruiting agents through the Offices of the Protector of Emigrants.
- From January 2008, under the Emigration Act, recruiting agents have also been submitting applications for opening branch offices, change/shifting offices or letters notifying change of Managing Director/Managing Partner to the respective offices of the POE with complete documentation and 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 the information of the general public and recruiting agents/intending recruiting agents.

## VII. PROTECTION AND WELFARE OF EMIGRANTS

Of all emigrant workers, housemaids and other unskilled workers constitute the most vulnerable category. Therefore, to avoid their exploitation, the Ministry has taken some of the following measures:

- (a) The age restriction of 30 years has been made mandatory in respect of all women emigrants emigrating on ECR passports to ECR countries irrespective of the nature/category of employment;
- (b) The foreign employer has to make a security deposit of US\$2,500 if he recruits the female worker directly.
- (c) Embassy attestation has been made mandatory in respect of all women and unskilled category workers for all ECR countries;
- (d) Under the Emigration (Amendment) Rules, recruiting agents have been entrusted with specific duties and responsibilities with a view

to safeguarding the interests of the emigrant worker. They will also have been enjoined to maintain certain basic facilities.

- (e) Specific duties of the foreign employers have been laid down under the Rules with a view to safeguarding the interests of the emigrants.
- (f) After Malaysia and Kuwait declared an amnesty scheme for illegal workers, many Indians availed of the scheme and returned to India.
- (g) Joint Working Group (JWG) meetings for the welfare and protection of the interests of emigrants with Qatar was held on January 17-18, 2011 at Doha; with Oman on May 24-25, 2011 at Muscat; with UAE on September 13, 2011 at New Delhi; and, with Kuwait on January 23-24, 2012 at New Delhi.
- (h) New initiatives like the 'Open House' meeting with Recruiting Agents, electronic filing of applications for registration and a POE conference were also taken up during the year.
- (i) With help from Indian Missions, Indian citizens in Egypt, Libya and Yemen returned home in the wake of internal disturbances in those countries. The details are as under:

Country	No. of Persons (approx.)
Egypt	750
Libya	17,927
Yemen	846

These Indian evacuees were provided various services by the Ministry, such as evacuation by air, food, medical assistance, shelter and emergency exit certificates. On arrival in India, they were provided free transit accommodation as well as free domestic travel facilities.

- (j) During the year 2011, three POE offices of Chennai, Delhi and Mumbai were declared ISO certified. Moreover, all POE offices have been fully computerised. In order to cater to intending emigrants from Rajasthan, a new POE office at Jaipur was opened on January 7, 2012 by Hon'ble Minister of Overseas Indian Affairs.

## 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 it has tried the following to address the situation.

The Indian Diaspora shares a unique and strong bond with India, which in the economic sphere, is best exemplified though the remittances of Overseas Indians. India continues to lead globally in being the highest recipient of remittances yet again with a massive US\$55 billion in its reserve basket along with growing NRI deposits. The Overseas Indian community continues to sustain its confidence in the home country. 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.

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. The UNCTAD World Investment Report (WIR) 2009, in its analysis of the global trends and sustained growth of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) inflows, has reported India as the third most attractive location for FDI for 2009-2011. According to the WIR 2009 report, the top five most attractive locations for FDI for 2009-11 were China, United States, India, Brazil and the Russian Federation.

### Non-Resident Indian Scheme

The general policy and facilities for Foreign Direct Investment are applicable to NRIs as well. In addition, the Government has extended some 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.

### NRI Investment

During August 1991 to December 2010, NRI inflows accounted for Rs. 29,347 crore (US\$7,354 million). These include the inflow of special NRI schemes administered by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI). 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: Annual Report



of Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (2010-11)

Therefore, 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 maximise 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.



Hon'ble Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh addresses the meeting of PMGAC-OI.

During the year 2011-12, 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 campaign was run over a period of 100 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 third meeting of the Global Advisory Council of Overseas Indians on January 8, 2012 at Raj Bhawan, Jaipur. Also present were Shri Vayalar Ravi, Minister of Overseas Indian Affairs,

Shri Jairam Ramesh, Minister of Rural Development, Dr. Montek Singh Ahluwalia, Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission of India, and Shri E. Ahamad, Minister of State for External Affairs, and Ministry of Human Resource Development 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.

The Members of the Council unanimously thanked the Prime Minister for convening the third meeting of the Council at Jaipur and for allowing free exchange of views on matters concerning Overseas Indians. The members placed on record their appreciation that many of the suggestions made by them previously had been implemented. They include the merging of the OCI (Overseas Citizenship of India) and PIO (Peoples of Indian Origin) cards and the facilitation of voting rights for Non-Resident Indians. The members spoke about issues concerning higher education, particularly with reference to faculty development, engaging second- and third-generation Overseas Indians, Foreign Direct Investment in the retail sector, issues pertaining to governance, and how India could take a more proactive role in the discourse on globalisation. The members maintained that on balance, the tenor of reports about India in the international media showed that the global community had a healthy respect for India because of India's strong fundamentals.

In his remarks, the Prime Minister thanked the members for their constructive suggestions. With a slowdown in the United States and Europe, the Prime Minister noted that growth centres may now shift to the Asia-Pacific. He was confident that despite the many constraints, India would return to a sustained high annual growth path of 9-10 percent in the medium term.

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 (IDF-OI)

The India Development Foundation of Overseas Indians (IDF-OI) is a not-for-profit trust established by the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs to provide the vast Overseas Indian community a credible institutional avenue to engage in philanthropy and social entrepreneurship to help advance India's social development. The Foundation has a Board of Governors, comprising eminent Indians and distinguished Overseas Indians.

IDF-OI's immediate interventions will be in areas such as education, healthcare, rural sustainable livelihood and empowerment of women.

The objectives of the Trust are:

1. Lead overseas Indian philanthropy into India, facilitate partnerships through a single window, and build public-private partnerships;
2. Establish and maintain a 'Social Capital and Philanthropy Network' in India that can build a list of credible institutions, projects and programmes;
3. Function as a clearing house for all philanthropy related information;
4. Partner with States in India and encourage credible Indian philanthropic organisations to project social sector development opportunities to Overseas Indians in sectors that best match national priorities, including empowerment of rural women;
5. Promote accountability and 'good practices' in Diaspora philanthropy.

The key USPs of the Trust are:

- IDF-OI is exempt from the provisions of the Foreign Contributions Regulation Act (FCRA) under Section 31 of the Act;
- The trust does not charge any administrative/ execution cost from contributions;
- IDF-OI will facilitate transfer of funds either directly to the NGO/project/cause of choice located within India or route it through IDF-OI to projects in specific areas of interest;
- IDF-OI encourages retail contributions.

IDF-OI is not just about money. It aims to provide a transparent and effective platform for volunteerism, social entrepreneurship, and sharing of knowledge, skills and expertise. IDF-OI will also help Overseas

Indians make contributions. It is being registered as a not-for-profit charity in the United States, Canada, Europe (UK and Germany), Gulf and APAC region (Australia and New Zealand) and will be organically linked to IDF-OI, India.

The online platform of IDF-OI ([www.idfoi.org](http://www.idfoi.org)) was launched by the Hon'ble Prime Minister at PBD 2012 in the presence of almost 1,500 Non-Resident Indians and People of Indian Origin from across 54 countries.

## OVERSEAS INDIAN FACILITATION CENTRE (OIFC)

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 objectives of the Centre are:

- (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.

In line with its mandate, OIFC continues to serve as an information resource centre for the Diaspora, regularly updating them with state-sector investment opportunities, trends and economic overviews through its business networking portal ([www.oifc.in](http://www.oifc.in)) and a monthly e-newsletter titled 'India Connect', the subscription base of which has crossed 26,000. OIFC also publishes research papers and reports. It recently published a handbook titled 'Returning Indians – All that you need to know', which was released by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India at the 10th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (PBD), held in January 2012 in Jaipur. OIFC also has a forum on its portal to address queries from the Diaspora.

The Centre today has on board various State Gov-



ernments, diaspora/investment cells, industry stakeholders (banking, financial services, taxation and market entry services), and international business associations (serving the interests of the Diaspora) as its Partners.

OIFC continues to address queries of the Indian Diaspora through its online 16x5 live facilitation service. It provides specialised advisory and consultation services through its State & Knowledge Partners, constantly adding to its cache of queries. It has addressed over 8,700 queries since the launch of the OIFC business networking portal in January 2010. It also assists its State Partners in projecting their investment opportunities at relevant OIFC forums and through dedicated web pages on its portal.

The business portal also supports registration of business networks and an online business matchmaking directory. It offers an engaged networking platform with moderated discussions on relevant subjects/topics of interest for Diaspora investors with businesses and professionals in India. The online registrations for the network have grown to over 7,000. Interestingly, a number of individuals in their capacity as potential innovators with focused business interests are joining the

network and are exploring India as a favourable destination to establish/expand their businesses.

OIFC also showcases opportunities for investment and business engagement through its Diaspora engagement meets. In 2011, two such road shows were conducted in high Diaspora-centric regions in Trinidad & Tobago and The Netherlands. A business delegation from India consisting of prominent industry players and policy makers also interacted with an invited and niche group of over 350 delegates, comprising High Networth Individuals, professionals, entrepreneurs, and policy makers of Indian origin, at these meets.

OIFC has also engaged with the Diaspora at PBD Conventions — both at the regional PBD hosted in Canada in June 2011 and the annual PBD in January 2012 in Jaipur.

In an effort to help build synergies between businesses in India and Canada, OIFC, in association with CII, organised a CEOs' delegation to Canada that coincided with the 5th Mini PBD.

This year, the Centre, in its sixth endeavour at the annual Pravasi Bharatiya Divas 2012, conducted business, with a difference. OIFC's Market Place



Hon'ble Minister of Overseas Indian Affairs and Civil Aviation after the ground-breaking ceremony of the Pravasi Bharatiya Kendra on April 28, 2011.



Forum, which seeks to facilitate relationships among OIFC's Partner Indian States, Knowledge Experts in various domains, and PBD delegates, was recast to create a relaxed environment conducive for business discussions. It also brought out a publication titled 'Now Returning Indians' for the benefit of the delegates and set up a forum to address queries from PBD delegates. OIFC conducted interview surveys to better understand the expectations and concerns of Overseas Indians. The Global INK stall it set up 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 objectives were to get a clear understanding of the Indian Diaspora's expectations and concerns in relation to their engagement with India, and seek significant policy/procedural recommendations to help strengthen the Diaspora's economic engagement with India. The survey and analysis have been completed. The team is now preparing to present the findings to MOIA.

The Central Government, in its endeavour to strengthen the Diaspora's economic linkages with India, seeks to encourage the Overseas Indians to make use of the OIFC platform to connect with India.

## **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 expected to be completed by April 2013.

## ECONOMIC DIVISION

The newly created 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 Ministry has proposed a Plan Scheme for skills development under Plan funding of the Planning Commission for the 12th & 13th Five-Year Plans. If approved, MOIA's Plan Scheme will also be coordinated by the Economic Division.

### ACADEMIC ENGAGEMENTS

As part of its mandate of conducting research of Di-

aspora related subject, MOIA is engaged with or has entered into MoUs with the following eminent research organisations/associations on a variety of topics of interest:

1. Zakir Husain Centre for Educational Studies, School of Social Science, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi.
2. Centre for Development Studies (CDS), Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala.
3. Memorandum of Cooperation between the ICOE and the Hellenic Migrant Policy Institute, Athens.
4. Centre for the Advanced Study of India CASI, University of Pennsylvania.
5. United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) now called as UN-Women, South Asia Sub-Regional Office, New Delhi.
6. MOU between ICOE and the European University Institute (EUI), Florence.
7. Migration Policy Institute (MPI), Washington DC.
8. Rajiv Gandhi Institute of Development Studies (RGIDS), Thiruvananthapuram.
9. International Migration Institute, University of Oxford.

The Ministry had signed a Memorandum of Agreement with the Centre for Development Studies, Thiruvananthapuram (an autonomous research institution under the aegis of the Indian Council of Social Science Research, Government of India and Government of Kerala) in the year 2006 to set up and run a Research Unit on International Migration



(RUIM), using the faculty and infrastructure available with CDS. The total cost of Rs.2.17 crores for setting up the Research Unit was to be shared by MOIA (Rs.1.46 crores) and CDS (Rs.0.61 crores). A Research Advisory Committee was also constituted to oversee the work of the Research Unit and provide guidance on further studies.

At the end of the five-year period of the Agreement in June 2011, MOIA received a proposal from CDS for an extension of the agreement for another five years. Based on a review of the research work carried out by RUIM during the five-year period and with the approval of the Hon'ble Minister of Over-

seas Indian Affairs, it was decided to renew the agreement for another five years from 2011 to 2016.

The total cost of running the Research Unit for another five years is estimated to be Rs.5.28 crores for which the MOIA will grant financial assistance of Rs.3.17 crores and the balance amount of Rs.2.11 crores would be met by the CDS. The MOIA released its share of Rs.47 lakh for the financial year 2011-12 in December 2011. The Work Plan of RUIM for 2011 includes, among others, a Survey of Return Migration and a Seminar on 'Migration and Development'.

## BUDGET AND FINANCIAL REVIEW

The Outcome Budget of the Ministry for the year 2011-12 was presented to Parliament in March 2011. The Budget Estimate of the Ministry for 2011-12 was Rs. 81 crores. The detailed Budget allocation and Revised Estimates are given in **Table-E**. The Budget Estimate for the year 2012-13 has been approved at Rs. 114.77 crores. 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; and

4059 — Capital Outlay on 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 maximise the productivity of expenditure on Schemes through partnerships

The broad trends in expenditure during the last five years are depicted in Bar Diagrams in **Figures A, B & C** (Pages 65, 67, 69).





# 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. The 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 the Official Language. This Division has been mandated to facilitate smooth and effective operation of the Ministry.

During the year, the Ministry arranged a workshop on 'Information Security Awareness' for officials working with the Ministry under the guidance of the Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC) on November 2, 2011. The Diary and creation and movement of files on Data Management Information System/File Tracking System (DMIS/FTS) have been implemented in the Ministry from October 2011.

The proposal for the opening of three new offices of the Protector of Emigrants has been granted approval by the Ministry of Finance. The office of POE Jaipur was inaugurated by the Hon'ble Minister of Overseas Indian Affairs on January 7, 2012. The process for making the two remaining POE offices, at Guwahati and Rai Bareilly, is now under way.

## I. OVERSEAS INDIAN CENTERS

The Government has sanctioned three posts of Counsellors, Community Affairs (Development), at the

Indian Missions of Washington DC, Abu Dhabi and Kuala Lumpur as field posts of MOIA in these countries. The Counsellor at Washington looks after the interests of the Overseas Indian community in the United States and Canada; the one in Abu Dhabi covers the UAE while the Counsellor at Kuala Lumpur looks after Malaysia, Singapore and Brunei. The Counsellors are supported by professionals who are appointed locally to provide assistance in the fields of health, legal and financial matters. The Counsellor at Washington is assisted by professionals in the field of Community Development and Legal Assistance. The Counsellor at Abu Dhabi has also been functioning satisfactorily. In addition, the Ministry of External Affairs has posted an officer at the High Commission of Malaysia. Based on the experience of these offices and considering the requirement, the Ministry would 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 the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI). Complaints about corruption and malpractices in the functioning of the Offices 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 the CBI has sought sanction for prosecution in respect of

officials working under MOIA and also the Offices of the Protector of Emigrants, permission has been duly given without any delay.

The Ministry is implementing the guidelines/instructions issued by the Department of Personnel & Training (DOP&T) and the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) on vigilance. 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 31-10-2011 to 5-11-2011, with officials taking a pledge of vigilance on October 31, 2011.

With a view to bringing about utmost transparency in its workings in discharge of regulatory obligations, the Ministry has uploaded on its website the Emigration Act and the Rules framed thereunder, downloadable forms, and guidelines for registration, among other matters. The Ministry also makes effective use of Information Technology.

There have been cases pertaining to employees, in different POE Offices who were involved in cases investigated by the CBI and in those cases, MOIA has invariably taken appropriate action exactly as recommended by the CBI, including Regular Departmental Action (RDA). In no case, MOIA has deviated from the recommendations of the CBI or ignored or violated its recommendations.

### III. PROGRESSIVE USE OF HINDI

The Official Language Section of the Ministry has the

nodal responsibility for effective implementation of the Official Language Act and Rules made thereof. Efforts have been made to popularise the use of Hindi in the Ministry, during the period under review, by outsourcing the initiative, wherever necessary. MOIA has fully complied with Provisions of Section 3(3) of the Official Language Act, 1963. All papers covered by these provisions were issued bilingually, that is, both in Hindi and English. Letters received in Hindi were replied to in Hindi in all cases.

The Ministry also organised the 'Hindi Pakhwara' from September 12-23, 2011. During this period, a Hindi workshop was organised for MOIA's officers/employees, including the outsourced staff, to impart basic knowledge about writing notes and preparing drafts in Hindi on routine subjects. Competitions in Noting and Drafting in Hindi as well as essay writing in Hindi were organised and cash prizes and certificates awarded to the winners.

### 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 MOIA:

Matter	Public Information Officer	Appellate Authority
All matters relating to the office of Protector General of Emigrants and offices 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 2011-2012 (up to January 31, 2011), 272 applications were received and 5 applications were carried over from the previous year. 58 were transferred to other authorities concerned, 208 were disposed of and 11 are in the process of disposal. During this period, 11 appeals were received, 9 were 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

# 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- C

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

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



## ANNEXURE- C

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

*Source: Emigration  
Services Division, MOIA*

## ANNEXURE- D

# OFFICES OF THE PROTECTORS OF EMIGRANTS (POES)

- 1. Office of the Protector of Emigrants**  
Jaisalmer House, Canteen Block,  
Mansingh Road, NEW DELHI – 110011  
Ph: 011-23382472, 23073908  
Fax: 011-23382472  
Email: poedelhi.moia.nic.in
- 2. Office of the Protector of Emigrants**  
Building E, Khira Nagar, SV Road,  
Santa Cruz (West), MUMBAI – 400039  
Ph: 022-26614393  
Fax: 022-26614353/26614393  
Email: poemumbai@yahoo.com
- 3. Office of the Protector of Emigrants**  
TNHB, Ashok Nagar,  
Shopping Complex (Annexe),  
CHENNAI – 600083  
Ph: 044-24891337  
Fax: 044-24891337  
Email: peochennai@yahoo.com
- 4. Office of the Protector of Emigrants**  
Suganthi, 24/846(1), Thycaud,  
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM – 695014  
Ph: 0471-2324835  
Fax: 0471-2324835  
Email: poetvm@gmail.com
- 5. Office of the Protector of Emigrants**  
3rd Floor, Putherickal Building,  
Market Road, COCHIN – 682035  
Ph: 0484-2360187  
Fax: 0484-2360187/2356981  
Email: poecochin.moia.nic.in
- 6. Office of the Protector of Emigrants**  
Griha Kalpa Complex, Ground Floor, M.J. Road,  
Opposite Gandhi Bhawan,  
Nampally, HYDERABAD,  
Ph: 040-24652557,  
Fax: 040-24652557  
Email: poehyd@gmail.com
- 7. Office of the Protector of Emigrants**  
5th Block, Ground Floor, Kendriya Sadan,  
Sector-9A, CHANDIGARH – 160017  
Ph: 0172-2741790  
Fax: 0172-2741790  
Email: poechd@moia.nic.in
- 8. Office of the Protector of Emigrants**  
Room No. 18, 'A'-Wing,  
MSO Building, 3rd Floor DF Block,  
Salt Lake, KOLKATA – 700084  
Ph: 033-23343407  
Fax: 033-23343407  
Email: poekol@moia.nic.in
- 9. Office of the Protector of Emigrants**  
Hall No. 3, RIICO CFC Building,  
Sitapura Industrial Area,  
Sitapura, Jaipur – 302022

## ANNEXURE-E

### List of Indian Women's Organisations/Indian Community Associations/NGOs empanelled with Indian Missions/Posts abroad to provide legal/financial assistance to Indian women deserted by their Overseas Indian husbands

Sl. No.	Indian Mission	Indian Women's Association/NGOs empanelled with the Indian Missions
1.	Embassy of India, Washington DC, USA	Indian Women's Association/NGOs empanelled with the Indian Missions ASHA (Asian Women's Self-Help Association) , PO Box No. 2084, Rockville, MD 20847-2084
2.	Consulate General of India, San Francisco, USA	(i) MAIRI, 234, East Gish Road, Suit 200, San Jose, CA 95112 (ii) NARIKA Post Box NO. 14014, Berkeley, CA 94714 (iii) SEVA Legal Aid 37053 Cherry Street # 207 Newark, CA 94560 <b>Email:</b> anu@worldwideibs.com
3.	Consulate General of India, New York, USA	(i) SAKHI, New York (ii) AWAKE, (Asian Women's Alliance For Kinship and Equality) <b>Email:</b> awakeall@awakealliance.org (iii) MANAVI, New Jersey; <b>Email:</b> manavi@manavi.org (iv) SERVICE AND EDUCATION FOR WOMEN AGAINST ABUSE (SEWAA) Philadelphia; <b>Email:</b> sewaapa@gmail.com (v) INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE OF BUFFALO; <b>Email:</b> iib@iibuff.org (vi) Asian Women's Safety Net, US Highway 1 South, Suite 106 Princeton, NJ 08540. <b>Email:</b> info@asianwomenssafety.net.com (vii) Sneha Inc; PO Box No. 271650, West Hartford, CT-06127
4.	Consulate General of India, Chicago, USA	APNA GHAR INC (OUR HOME), Chicago; <b>Email:</b> info@apnaghar.org
5.	Consulate General of India, Houston	Daya Inc., 5890 Point West Dr, Houston TX77036
6.	Embassy of India, Qatar	Indian Community Benevolent Fund, Doha, Qatar
7.	High Commission of India, Canberra, Australia	Federation of Indian Communities of Queensland Inc, (FICQ), Brisbane, PO Box No. 157, Spring Hill, Qld 4004 (23 Stralock St, Chapel Hill, Qld 4069)

## ANNEXURE- E

Sl. No.	Indian Mission	Indian Women's Association/NGOs empanelled with the Indian Missions
8.	Consulate General of India, Melbourne	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) The Indian Welfare &amp; Resources Centre (IWRC), the welfare wing of the Federation of Indian Association of Victoria, Melbourne</li> <li>(ii) Federation of Indian Associations of Victoria INC (FIAV), PO Box No. 696, Glen Waverley, Vic 3150, 3/85, Foster Street, Dandenong, Vic – 3175. <b>Email:</b> president@fiav.asn.au</li> </ul>
9.	Consulate General of India, Sydney, Australia	United Indian Association Inc; Post Box 575, Strathfield, NSW 2135
10.	High Commission of India, Ottawa, Canada	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) Indian Canada Association, 1301 Prestone Drive, Ottawa, ON K1E, 2Z2</li> <li>(ii) Ottawa Community Immigrant Services Organization 959 Wellington Street West, Ottawa ON K1Y 2X5</li> <li>(iii) National Association of Canadians of Indian Origin 4 Saint-Paul East, Suite 201. Montreal QC H2Y 1G3</li> <li>(iv) AWIC Community &amp; Social Services 3030 Don Mills Road, Peanut Plaza, North York, ON M2J 3C1</li> </ul>
11.	Indian Embassy, Bahrain	Migrant Workers Protection Society (MWPS) PO Box No. 5561 Flat No.2, Ground Floor, Building 647 Road 3625, Adliya, Area 326, Kingdom of Bahrain
12.	High Commission of India, Wellington, New Zealand	Shakti Community Council Inc., 5A Jordan Avenue Onehunga, Auckland, PO Box No. 24448 Royal Oak, Auckland <b>Email:</b> scc@shakti.org.nz
13.	High Commission of India, London, UK	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) Good Human Foundation, 42 Easton House 39-40 Upper Grosvenor Street, London W1K2NG</li> <li>(ii) Sangam Association of Asian Women 210 Burnt Oak Broadway, Edgware Middlesex HA8 OAP, UK <b>Email:</b> info@sangamcentre.org.uk</li> </ul>

Source: Diaspora Services Division, MOIA





## TABLE – A

### EMIGRATION FOR EMPLOYMENT DURING THE LAST SIX YEARS

Year	No. of workers
2006	6,76,912
2007	8,09,453
2008	8,48,601
2009	6,10,272
2010	6,41,356
2011	6,26,565

Source: Emigration Services Division, MOIA

TABLE - B

**DISTRIBUTION OF ANNUAL LABOUR  
OUTFLOWS FROM INDIA DESTINATION-WISE FROM  
2006-2011**

Sl.No.	Country	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
1	Afghanistan	0	0	405	395	256	487
2	Bahrain	37,688	29,966	31,924	17,541	15,101	14,323
3	Brunei	0	0	607	2	1	0
4	Indonesia	0	0	33	9	3	22
5	Iraq					390	1177
6	Jordan	1,485	1,254	1,377	847	2,562	1,413
7	Kuwait	47,449	48,467	35,562	42,091	37,667	45,149
8	Lebanon	0	0	75	250	765	534
9	Libya	--	3,223	5,040	3,991	5,221	477
10	Malaysia	36,500	30,916	21,123	11,345	20,577	17,947
11	Maldives	4,671	ECNR	ECNR	ECNR	0	0
12	Mauritius	1,795	ECNR	ECNR	ECNR	0	0
13	Oman	67,992	95,462	89,659	74,963	10,5807	73,819
14	Qatar	76,324	88,483	82,937	46,292	45,752	41,710
15	S. Arabia	1,34,059	1,95,437	2,28,406	2,81,110	2,75,172	2,89,297
16	Sudan	0	0	1,045	708	957	1,175
17	Syria	0	0	74	0	2	118
18	Thailand	0	0	15	5	05	27
19	U. A. E.	2,54,774	3,12,695	3,49,827	1,30,302	1,30,910	1,38,861
20	Yemen	0	0	492	421	208	29
21	Others	14,175	3,550	0	0	0	0
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6,76,912</b>	<b>8,09,453</b>	<b>8,48,601</b>	<b>6,10,272</b>	<b>6,41,356</b>	<b>6,26,565</b>

Source: Emigration Services Division, MOIA

**TABLE - C**

**STATE-WISE FIGURES OF WORKERS GRANTED  
EMIGRATION CLEARANCE/ECNR ENDORSEMENT  
DURING THE YEARS 2006-2011**

Sl.No.	State	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
1.	A&N Islands	190	87	89	75	80	93
2.	Andhra Pradesh	97,680	1,05,044	97,530	69,233	72,220	71,589
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	25	244	181	188	175
4.	Assam	1,075	1,905	1,517	1,788	2,133	2,459
5.	Bihar	36,493	51,805	60,642	50,227	60,531	71,438
6.	Chandigarh	6,616	9,177	1,768	966	831	861
7.	Chhattisgarh	4,735	310	80	51	81	114
8.	Daman & Diu	0	0	27	8	11	13
9.	Delhi	9,098	5,327	4,512	2,501	2,583	2,425
10.	DNH/UT	11	12	17	3	11	53
11.	Goa	4,063	3,102	2,210	1,659	1,380	1,112
12.	Gujarat	13,274	20,066	15,716	9,185	8,245	8,369
13.	Haryana	193	1,852	1,779	1,052	958	1,058
14.	Himachal Pradesh	1,180	1,119	1,345	776	743	739
15.	Jammu & Kashmir	1,661	3,276	3,588	4,307	4,080	4,137
16.	Jharkhand	1,427	3,651	3,561	3,545	3,922	4,287
17.	Karnataka	24,362	27,014	22,413	18,565	17,295	15,394
18.	Kerala	1,20,083	1,50,475	1,80,703	1,19,384	1,04,101	86,783
19.	Lakshadweep	0	0	23	19	18	11
20.	Madhya Pradesh	7,047	3,616	2,321	1,897	1,564	1,378
21.	Maharashtra	15,356	21,496	24,786	19,128	18,123	16,698
22.	Manipur	0	1	30	18	22	11
23.	Meghalaya	0	7	24	21	11	16
24.	Mizoram	0	-	8	2	4	0
25.	Nagaland	0	7	10	5	2	39
26.	Orissa	4,114	6,696	8,919	6,551	7,344	7,255
27.	Pondichery	2	45	397	320	223	211
28.	Port Blair	1	2	0		0	0
29.	Punjab	39,311	53,942	54,469	2,72,91	30,974	31,866
30.	Rajasthan	50,236	70,896	64,601	44,744	47,803	42,239

TABLE - C

Sl.No.	State	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
31.	Sikkim	10	2	18	12	8	8
32.	Tamil Nadu	1,55,631	1,50,842	1,28,791	78,841	84,510	68,732
33.	Tripura	1	121	592	324	454	465
34.	Uttar Pradesh	66,131	91,613	1,39,254	1,25,783	1,40,826	1,55,301
35.	Uttarakhand	93	179	523	623	1,177	1,441
36.	West Bengal	14,929	24,817	26,094	21,187	28,900	29,795
37.	Others	1909	924	0		0	0
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6,76,912</b>	<b>8,09,453</b>	<b>8,48,601</b>	<b>6,10,272</b>	<b>6,41,356</b>	<b>6,26,565</b>

Source: Emigration Services Division, MOIA

TABLE- D

## PRIVATE REMITTANCES (2001-02 TO 2010-11)

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

Source: Reserve Bank of India

**TABLE - E**

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

1	2 Object Head	3 BE 11-12	4 Actual for 2011-12 up to 31/12/2011	5 RE11-12	6 BE 12-13
	<b>Revenue Section</b>				
2052 (Major Head)	Secretariat-General Services				
00.090	Secretariat (Minor Head)				
34	Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs				
01	Establishment (Details Head)				
34.01.01	Salaries	5.4	3.62	4.4	5
34.01.02	Wages	0.003	0.10	0.1	0.003
34.01.03	Overtime Allowance	0.027	0.01	0.03	0.03
34.01.06	Medical Treatment	0.08	0.03	0.12	0.15
34.01.11	Domestic Travel Exp.	0.9	0.16	0.9	0.9
34.01.12	Foreign Travel Exp.	2	0.77	2	0.75
34.01.13	Office Exp.	2	1.98	2.7	2.077
34.01.14	Rent, Rates and Taxes	2.05	2.03	2.65	1
34.01.16	Publications	0.2	0.00	0.2	0.2
34.01.17	Banking Cash Transaction Tax	0	0	0	0
34.01.26	Advertising and Publicity	1.9	1.78	2.4	0.5
34.01.27	Minor works	0.17	0.28	0.6	0.05
34.01.28	Professional services	0.6	0.04	0.1	0.2
99	Information Tech.	0.38	0.12	0.6	0.4
34.99.13	Office Exp. E-migrate Project	0	0	0	22.00
	<b>Total — Secretariat</b>	<b>15.710</b>	<b>10.92</b>	<b>16.8</b>	<b>33.26</b>



TABLE - E

1	2 Object Head	3 BE 11-12	4 Actual for 2011-12 up to 31/12/2011	5 RE11-12	6 BE 12-13
40	<b>Protector General of Emigrant</b>				
40.01	Establishment (Details)				
40.01.01	Salaries	2.79	1.71	2.39	2
40.01.02	Wages	0.01	0.03	0.01	0.01
40.01.03	Overtime Allowance	0	0	0	0
40.01.06	Medical Treatment	0.03	0.02	0.07	0.11
40.01.11	Domestic Travel Exp.	0.15	0.08	0.28	0.36
40.01.12	Foreign Travel Exp.	0	0	0	0
40.01.13	Office Exp.	0.7	0.63	1.29	1
40.01.14	Rent, Rates and Taxes	0.8	0.63	1.04	0.5
40.01.16	Publications	0	0	0	0
40.01.17	Banking Cash Transaction Tax	0	0	0	0
40.01.26	Advertising and Publicity	0	0	0	0
40.01.27	Minor works	0.01	0	0.01	0.01
40.01.28	Professional services	0.1	0.01	0.1	0.1
99 40.99.13	Information Tech. Office Exp.	1.50	1.14	2.3	0.75
	<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>6.09</b>	<b>4.25</b>	<b>7.49</b>	<b>4.84</b>
00.800 07 07.00.20	Other Expenditure (Minor Head) Expenditure on Holding Seminars & Studies Other Administrative Expenses Total-Other Expenditure				
		0.20	0.04	0.20	0.00
	<b>Total Secretariat General Services</b>	<b>22.00</b>	<b>15.21</b>	<b>24.49</b>	<b>38.10</b>
2061 00.104	External Affairs (Major Head) International Conferences/ Meetings (Minor Head)				
01 01.00.20	International Conferences/Meetings Other Administrative Expenses	2.00	0.01	0.05	1.00
00.106 01 01.00.20	Entertainment Charges (Minor Head) Entertainment of Dignitaries				



**TABLE - E**

1	2 Object Head	3 BE 11-12	4 Actual for 2011-12 up to 31/12/2011	5 RE11-12	6 BE 12-13
	Other Administrative Expenses	0.30	0.05	0.30	0.30
	<b>Total International Conferences/Meetings</b>	<b>2.30</b>	<b>0.06</b>	<b>0.35</b>	<b>1.30</b>
0.800 03 03.03.50	Other Expenditure Minor Head) Other Schemes Other Charges	41.50	13.38	35.96	49.37
15.00 15.00.50	Celebration of Pravasi Bharatiya Divas Other Charges	6.00	3.94	6.50	6.00
	Total External Affairs(Major Head)	49.80	17.38	42.81	56.67
	<b>Total – Revenue Section</b>	<b>71.80</b>	<b>32.59</b>	<b>67.30</b>	<b>94.77</b>
4059	<b>Capital Outlay on Public Works:</b>				
60	<b>(Major Head)</b>				
60.051 23	Other Building (Sub Major Head) Construction (Minor Head) Pravasi Bharatiya Kendra	9.00	7.00	13.50	20.00
23.00.53 24.00 24.00.53	Major Works Construction/Purchase of Building for PGE/POEs	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.00
	Total Capital Outlay on Public Works	9.20		13.70	20.00
	<b>Total Capital Section</b>	<b>9.20</b>		<b>13.70</b>	<b>20.00</b>
	<b>Total – Grant No. 69</b>	<b>81.00</b>	<b>39.39</b>	<b>81.00</b>	<b>114.77</b>

Source: Finance & Budget Division, MOIA





## FIGURE-A

### ESTIMATES AND EXPENDITURE (Rs. in Crores)

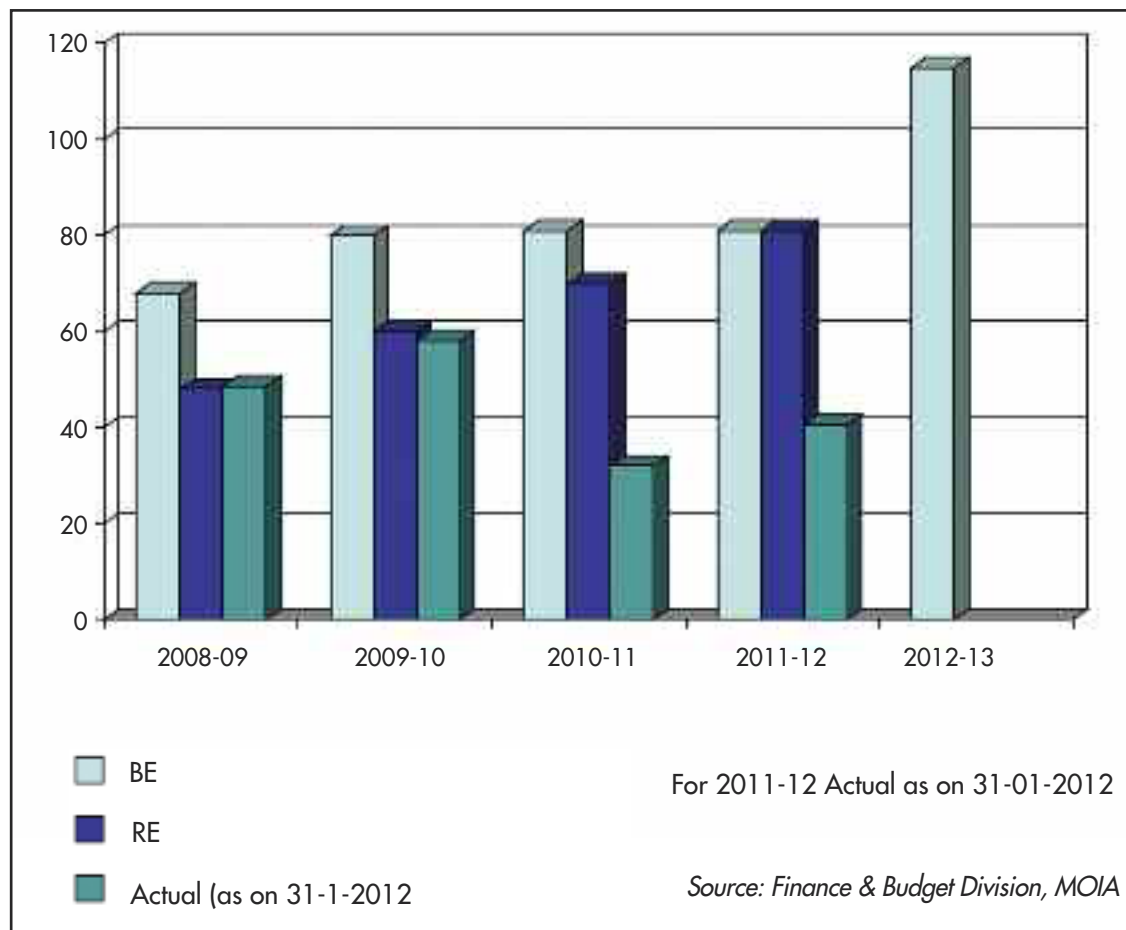








FIGURE-B

## ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENDITURE (UP TO JANUARY 2012) VIS-A-VIS SCHEME EXPENDITURE IN THE YEAR 2011-2012- ESTIMATES

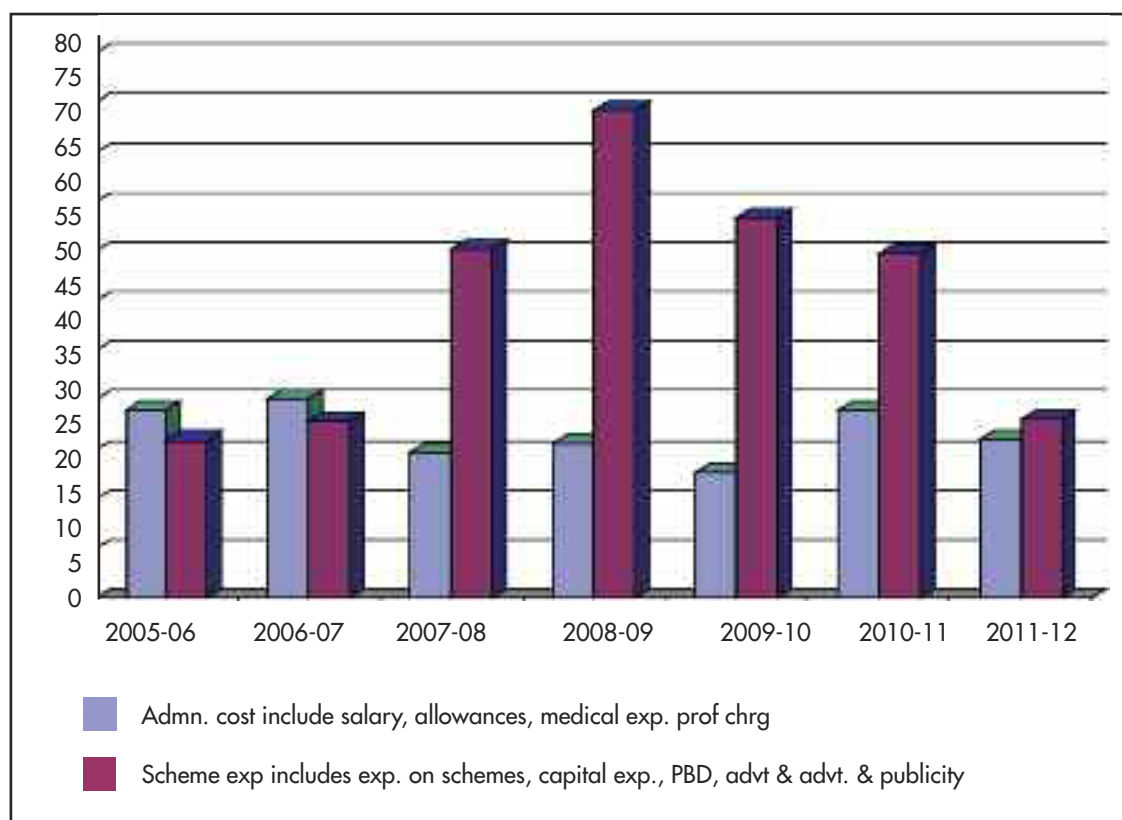
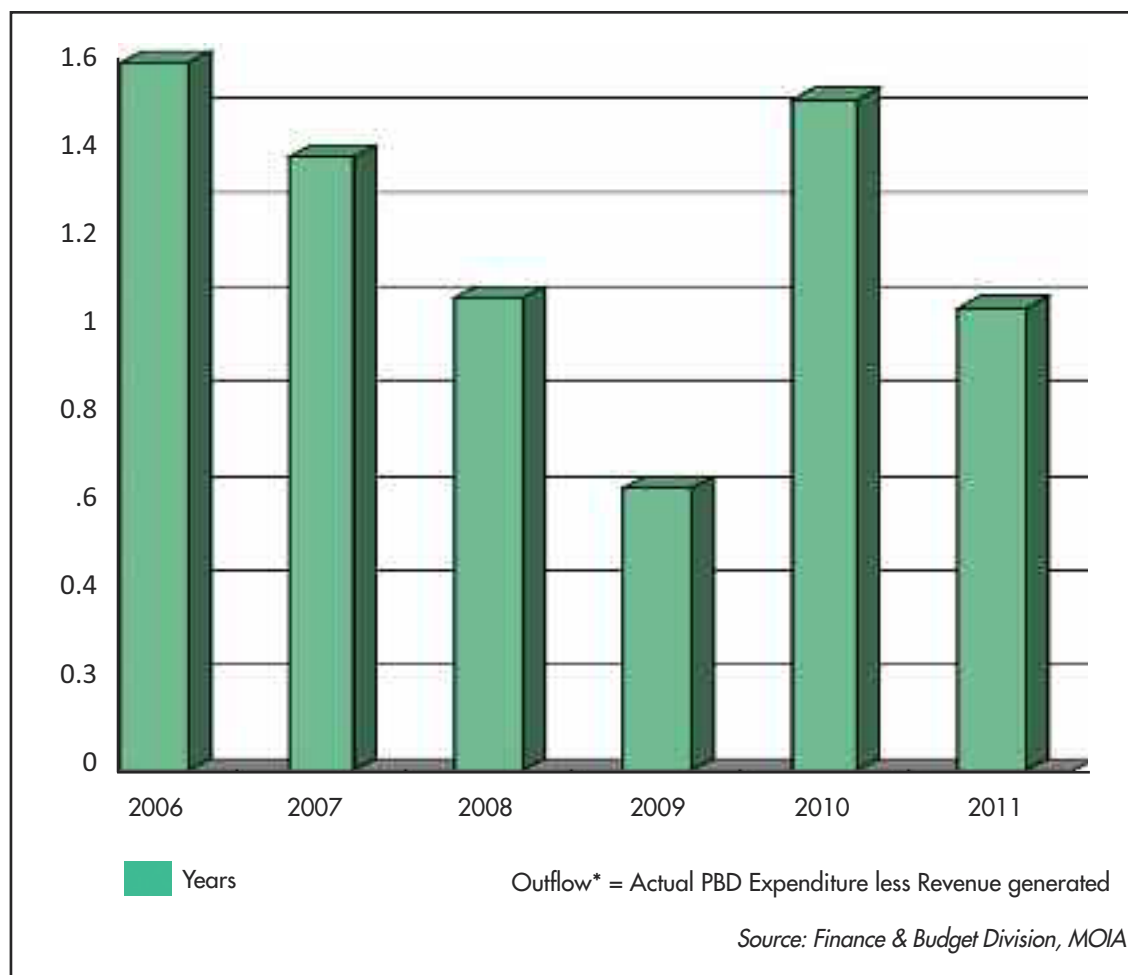






FIGURE-C

## REDUCTION IN NET BUDGET OUTFLOW\* ON PBD (Rs. In Crore)



## ABBREVIATIONS

CGI	Consulate General of India
DMIS	Data Management Information System
ECR	Emigration Clearance Required
ECNR	Emigration Clearance Not Required
HCI	High Commission of India
HOM	Head of Mission
HRMP	Human Resource Mobility Partnership
ICOE	Indian Council of Overseas Employment
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
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
POE	Protector of Emigrants
RA	Recruiting Agent
RAC	Research Advisory Committee
RUIM	Research Unit on International Migration
SSA	Social Security Agreement



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Vayalar Ravi  
Minister for Overseas Indian Affairs



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