Government of India
Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs

Akbar Bhawan, Satya Marg, Chankayapuri,
New Delhi, Dated 03 January, 2014

To

All Protectors of Emigrants

Subject: Regarding minimum referral wages as updated by the Embassy of India, Khartoum (Sudan).

Sir,

I am directed to enclose herewith a copy of e-mail dated 22nd December, 2013 received from the Embassy of India, Khartoum (Sudan) on the above subject for information and necessary action.

Yours faithfully,

(Sami Ahmad Khan)
Under Secretary to the Govt. of India
Tel. No. 011-24197924
Dear Shri Buhril,

This has reference to your D.O. Letter No. Z-11025/234/2010-Emig, dated Nil December 2013 regarding the minimum referral wages.

2. Our response dated October 16, 2013 on the above subject is attached for ready reference. We still do not have any further information from the host government on this issue and I am not very hopeful of getting the required inputs through the official channels.

3. Of course, the figure of SDG425 mentioned in the above message is for the minimum wage and any foreigner would not be able to afford even the bare minimum facilities. If we exclude expenditure towards air-fare, accommodation, medical expenses, group insurance etc., anything less than USD250 (SDG1450 at the Sudanese official rate and SDG1900 at the fluctuating market rate) will not be sufficient for a decent living. Of course, wages for skilled manpower would vary in accordance with the prevailing market driven hiring rates at the time of recruitment. In brief, if we want to fix a minimum referral wage for an Indian worker in Sudan, guaranteeing him/her a respectable living, it could be USD250, excluding international air-fare, accommodation, medical expenses and insurance. Given the wide fluctuations in the exchange rate, we should not encourage the Sudanese recruiters to fix the wages in terms of the local currency (SDG).

4. I hope the above input is helpful.

Regards,

Yours sincerely,

Shri R Buhril,
Joint Secretary,
Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs,
New Delhi