

ANNUAL REPORT

2009-10

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS**

“We are immensely proud of the achievements of our diaspora. Your achievements have made a great contribution in changing the image of India to the world at large.

In our lifetime we have seen India walk with greater confidence and ability. In the lifetime of our children we would want them to see the India of our and their dreams - an India that lives up to the expectations of those who struggled to make it free and those who toil to take it forward and an India that wishes to live in peace, as it seeks prosperity for all.

As India seeks to realize its destiny in the 21st century, our engagement with the world draws its spiritual motivations from the values of our freedom struggle and our cultural and spiritual heritage.”

- From the Inaugural Address of
Prime Minister
Dr. Manmohan Singh
At the Pravasi Bharatiya Divas,
New Delhi,
January 8, 2010

MINISTRY OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS

ANNUAL REPORT 2009-10

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INDIA AND OVERSEAS INDIANS – AN OVERVIEW

The overseas Indian community spans the globe with a presence in 189 countries across the world. Estimated at over 25 million, India has the world's second largest overseas community, next only to China, but far more diverse.

Like all other major movements of people, the overseas Indian community is the result of different waves of migration over hundreds of years driven by a variety of reasons – mercantilism, colonialism and globalisation. Its early experiences make up a saga of trials, tribulations and the eventual triumph of determination and hard work.

In pre-modern times, Indian traders crossed the Indian Ocean to the east coast of Africa and overland to Central and West Asia. Others, over several centuries reached parts of South East Asia. In the 19th century, the abolition of slavery in the British Empire necessitated the large scale recruitment of 'indentured' Indian labourers for colonies in the Atlantic, Pacific and the Indian Oceans and under the 'Kangani System' to destinations in South East Asia. In more recent times, following India's independence, there was in the mid 20th century a wave of migration of Indians in search of new opportunities in Europe, North America and Australasia.

Today, Overseas Indians constitute a significant and successful economic, social and cultural force in the world. In the last three decades of the 20th century

the character of migration began to change and a 'new Diaspora' led by high skilled professionals moving to the western world and semi-skilled contract workers moving to the Gulf, West and South East Asia emerged. This migratory wave is led primarily by the 'New Economy' comprising Information and communication technology, Bio-technology, financial services and indeed scientists, technologists and academia.

The overseas Indian community thus constitutes a diverse, heterogeneous and eclectic global community representing different regions, languages, cultures and faiths. The common thread that binds them together is the idea of India and its intrinsic values. Overseas Indians comprise People of Indian Origin and Non Resident Indians and today are amongst the best educated and successful communities in the world. In every part of the world the overseas Indian community is recognised and respected for its hard work, discipline, non-interference and for successfully integrating with the local community. Overseas Indians have made significant contributions to the economy of the country of residence and have added in considerable measure to knowledge and innovation.

The emergence of significant Diasporas has in recent years brought into sharp focus two key facts. First, there is a large expatriate population of

skilled people from emerging economies in the developed world. Second, overseas communities can constitute a significant resource for the development of the countries of origin. The movement of the high skilled and low skilled workers from less to more developed economies and back opens several new opportunities for development. To view the Diaspora only through the looking glass of remittances and financial flows is to take a myopic view. Not all expatriates need to be investors and their development impact measured only in terms of financial contributions to the home country.

An overseas community can and does serve as an important 'bridge' to access knowledge, expertise, resources and markets for the development of the country of origin. The success of this bridge is often predicated upon two conditions: the ability of the Diaspora to develop and project a coherent, intrinsically motivated and progressive identity and the capacity of the home country to establish conditions and

institutions for sustainable, symbiotic and mutually rewarding engagement. Home countries are now beginning to recognise the need to pursue and promote the dynamic of the Diaspora and development.

India's engagement with its Diaspora is symbiotic, the strands of both sides of the relationship equally important to create a resilient and robust bond. To engage 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. To create conditions, partnerships and institutions that will best enable India to connect with its Diaspora comprehensively is central to all our programmes and activities. As a new India seeks to become a global player of significance, the time has come for a strong and sustained engagement between India and overseas Indians. The time has also come for overseas Indians to benefit from the exciting opportunities that India provides.

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 the overseas Indians. Established in May, 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 MEA now functions as the Diaspora division in the Ministry.

Small and unconventional, the Ministry is headed by a Cabinet Minister and has three functional service divisions: Diaspora Services, Financial Services and Emigration Services. A small team of eighteen officers (US and above) works in 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 eight field offices of the Protectors of Emigrants located at Chandigarh, Chennai, Cochin, Delhi, Hyderabad, Kolkata, Mumbai and Thiruvananthapuram.

II. POLICY IMPERATIVES

The MOIA is the focal Ministry for all matters relating to overseas Indians (OI) 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 the Ministry. The Vision, Mission and Objectives of the Ministry are:

VISION: Foster sustainable, symbiotic and strategic engagement between India and Overseas Indians across the economic, social and cultural space that will best serve India as an emerging global power and meet the expectations of the overseas Indian community as a significant constituency across the world.

MISSION: Establish a robust and vibrant institutional framework to facilitate and support mutually beneficial networks with and among overseas Indians to maximize the development impact for India and to enable overseas Indians to invest in and benefit from the - economic, social and cultural - opportunities in India.

This will be sought to be achieved based on three value propositions:

- Through multi-skilled market driven entities promoted by the Ministry but managed at 'arm's length' by knowledge partners from the private sector.
- Enlisting the states as stake-holder partners since overseas Indian related initiatives need to be anchored in the states.
- Stay small, drive policy changes and facilitate activity on ground

OBJECTIVES:

- Facilitate sustained interaction of overseas Indians with India and offer them a wide variety of services in economic, social and cultural matters.
- Extend institutional support for individual initiatives and community action to harness the knowledge, skills and investible resources of overseas Indians to supplement the national development efforts.
- Strengthen the bond between India and its diaspora by recognizing and celebrating its success and achievements.
- Transform management of emigration into a transparent, efficient and humane process through appropriate domestic interventions and international cooperation.

III. INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS

To fulfill its mandate, the focus of the Ministry has been on establishing a robust institutional arrangement to promote sustainable and mutually beneficial engagement between overseas Indians and India across the economic, social and cultural space. Towards this end the institutional arrangements established include:

- 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 of Overseas Indians (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 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 Global Indian Network of Knowledge (Global-INK), a robust electronic platform that will facilitate transfer of knowledge with the objective of leveraging the expertise, skills and experience of overseas Indians.
- The Prime Minister's Global Advisory Council of Overseas Indians, to serve as a high level body to draw upon the talent of the best overseas Indian minds wherever they might reside.
- Overseas Indian Centres (OIC) at the Indian Missions at 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 promotion of trade and investment, emigration, education, culture, health and science & technology among others. . 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 (OCI) Scheme
- Awareness Campaign on the risks of irregular Migration
- Pravasi Bharatiya Divas
- Know India Programme
- Pravasi Bharatiya Bima Yojana
- Pravasi Bharatiya Kendra
- Tracing the Roots Scheme

- Scholarship Programme for Diaspora Children (SPDC)
- Setting up of a PIO University
- Overseas Indian Facilitation Centre
- Overseas Workers Resources Centres
- 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 and Denmark for the benefit of the skilled and semi-skilled workers, the Ministry has successfully entered into bilateral social security agreements with Belgium, France, Germany, Switzerland, Luxembourg and Netherlands. The Ministry is also negotiating and concluding bilateral Society Security Agreements with other countries in Europe, North America and the Asia Pacific for the benefit of Indian professionals. Labour Mobility Partnerships to enhance overseas employment avenues are also being pursued with the European Union and select member states of the E.U.

In addition, the Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (PBD) and the Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Awards continue to be the flagship event of the Ministry. The PBD commemorates the return of Mahatma Gandhi, the first great Pravasi, to India on January 9, 1915, to lead an eminently successful non-violent struggle for India's freedom. This programme also seeks to bring the expertise and knowledge of the overseas Indian on a common platform and integrate it with the country's development process.

LOOKING BACK AT 2009-10

The year 2009-10 has been eventful and productive for the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs. We have made progress on several fronts – economic, social and cultural.

The highlights of the year in brief are –

In April the administrative arrangements for implementation of the Social Security Agreement (SSA) between India and France were finalized in Paris. The Indo-French SSA provides for avoidance of double payment, portability of benefits and totalisation of contribution of social security on a reciprocal basis to expatriates of both countries.

In May, a Counselor (Community Development Affairs), MoIA took charge at Abu Dhabi to look after the interests of the overseas Indian community in the UAE.

In June, an Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between India and Bahrain was signed for the welfare and the protection of Indian workers.

In July, the amendments to the Emigrations Rules, 1983 were notified. The amendments, inter-alia, stipulate – i) enhancing the bank guarantee for Recruiting Agents (RA) from Rs.10 Lakh to Rs.20 Lakh, ii) the application fee from Rs.5000/- to Rs.25,000/- and iii) the maximum service charges to be collected by the agents from Rs.10,000 to an equivalent of 45 days wages subject to a maximum of Rs.20,000/-. Besides, educational criteria of bachelor's degree or two years diploma or equivalent have been stipulated for registration of RA. The RAs as well as the foreign employers have been entrusted with additional duties and responsibilities with an objective to enhance protection of emigrants

In August, the Cabinet approved the proposal for setting up the Indian Community Welfare Fund (ICWF) in the Indian Missions in 17 ECR Countries and the Maldives.

In September, the third mini-PBD called "PBD-Europe" was held at the World Forum in The Hague on 19.9.2009. The event was organized in partnership with the Municipality of The Hague and with the active support of Indo-Dutch organization in the Netherlands. The event was attended by more than 500 overseas Indians and other dignitaries including from the Dutch Government.

The SSAs with Switzerland and Luxembourg were signed. In addition, the Labour Mobility Partnership Agreement, the first of its kind with a member State of Europe, was signed with Denmark.

In October, the SSA with Netherlands was signed.

The agreement on Social Insurance signed with Germany came into force with effect from 1.10.2009.

In November, the 4th Annual Conference of the Heads of Missions of GCC Countries, Jordan, Libya, Yemen, Malaysia and Maldives was held on 26-27th November, 2009 in New Delhi. The Conference was attended by the Heads of Missions (HOM) from 11 Indian Missions, the representatives of MEA and the Ministry of Labour and Employment and 8 State Governments. Major recommendations/decisions taken by the Conference included establishing 'Indian Worker Resource Centres (IWRC)' by the Missions to extend a host of counseling services and a grievance redressal mechanism, activating the Joint Working Groups (JWG) under the provisions of the labour MoU,s signed with the major labour receiving Countries, implementing a computerized system of universal attestation of

employment documents and initiating action against fraudulent intermediaries in the host countries to prevent illegal migration from India.

The first meeting of the Board of Trustees of India Development Foundation of Overseas Indians (IDF) was held on 4th November, 2009.

In December, we hosted the Asia-Europe (ASEM), International Conference on Migratory Flows between Asia and Europe in Goa, which was attended by representatives of over 45 countries and the European Union.

In January, The 8th edition of the *Pravasi Bharatiya Divas* convention was held in New Delhi from 7th to 9th January, 2010. The Convention was attended by over 1500 delegates from different countries. Besides the inaugural and valedictory sessions, three Plenary Sessions, six concurrent sessions and separate State Sessions were organized. On this occasion, Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Awards were conferred on 14 overseas Indians.

The two pre-conferences seminars on "Nano-technology" and "Property-related issues of overseas Indians" drew enthusiastic participation of all stakeholders and were widely appreciated.

The first meeting of the Prime Minister's Global Advisory Council held on 7th

January, 2010 was another highlight of this year's mega-event.

The 13th Know India Programme was organized in partnership with the States of Kerala and Rajasthan from 28th December 2009 to 20th January 2010. 40 youths of Indian origin from 16 countries participated.

In February, the bilateral Social Security Agreements with Hungary and Denmark were signed in Budapest and New Delhi respectively.

The MOIA Team (2009-10)

Shri Vayalar Ravi
Cabinet Minister

Sh. K. Mohandas
(upto November 2009)

Dr. A. Didar Singh
(from December 2009)
Secretary

Shri D.N. Srivastava
(upto October 2009)

Shri G.Gururcharan
Joint Secretary

Joint Secretary
(Diaspora Services)

(Financial Services, Emigration policy,
Administration and Chief Vigilance Officer) Dr. Ranbir
Singh

Smt. Sandhya Shukla

Shri. N. Balasubra-
manian

Shri Shiv Ratan

Sh. Mithlesh Kumar

Sh. K.B.Arora
Deputy

Protector
General
of
Emigrants

Director
(Diaspora
Services)

Deputy
Secretary
(Diaspora
Services)

Director
(Emigration
Policy)

Deputy
Secretary
(Financial
Services
& Budget)

Deputy
Secretary
(Admn
and
Emigration
Policy.)

Secretary
(Vigilance
& Co-
ordination)

Sh. K. C.
Badhok
Director
(Emigration
Services)

DIASPORA SERVICES

The Diaspora Services Division deals with all matters relating to Overseas Indians comprising Persons of Indian Origin (PIO) and Non-Resident Indians (NRIs), overseas citizenship matters, Pravasi Bharatiya Divas, Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Awards, admission of NRI/PIO students to various educational, technical and cultural institutions in India, scholarships to NRI/PIO students in India and new initiatives to promote interaction of overseas Indians with India in Tourism, Media, Youth Affairs, Education, Culture etc.

I. OVERSEAS CITIZENSHIP OF INDIA(OCI)

Keeping in view persistent demands for “dual citizenship” from the Indian Diaspora, particularly from North America, West Europe, Australia and New Zealand, and the Government’s deep commitment in engaging Persons of Indian Origin with the land of their ancestors in a mutually beneficial relationship, the Overseas Citizenship of India (OCI) Scheme was launched in August 2005 by amending the Citizenship Act, 1955. The Scheme provides for the registration as Overseas Citizens of India (OCI) of all Persons of Indian Origin (PIOs) who were citizens of India on or after 26th January, 1950 or were eligible to become citizens of India on 26th January, 1950 and who are citizens of other countries, except Pakistan and Bangladesh.

2. The Scheme was introduced in the financial year 2006-2007 and envisages issue of OCI documents consisting of OCI registration certificate and Universal visa sticker to persons of Indian origin. The Scheme has been operational since January, 2006 and as on 28th February, 2010, a total number of 5,52,355 Persons of Indian Origin 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 Foreigners Regional Registration Office for any length of stay in India. As mandated under the Allocation of Business, the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs has issued notifications granting registered OCIs further benefits as under:
 - (i) Parity with Non-Resident Indians in the matter of inter-country adoption of Indian children ;
 - (ii) Parity with resident Indian nationals in matters of tariffs in domestic air fares ;
 - (iii) Parity with domestic Indian visitors in respect of entry fee for visiting national parks and wildlife sanctuaries in India ;
 - (iv) Parity with non-resident Indians in respect of :
 - (i) entry fees for visiting the

national monuments, historical sites and museums in India;
(ii) practising the following professions in India, in pursuance of the provisions contained in the relevant Acts, namely :

- (a) doctors, dentists, nurses and pharmacists;
- (b) advocates;
- (c) architects; and
- (d) chartered accountants; 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 citizenship'. OCI does not confer political rights. Detailed instructions and procedures on the OCI Scheme are given in the MHA's website : www.mha.nic.in.

An on-line OCI miscellaneous service is now available for re-issuance /issuance of duplicate OCI documents, in case of issuance of new passport, change of personal particulars, viz, nationality, name, change of address/occupation, etc. and loss/damage of OCI registration certificate/visa.

II. 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 upto US\$ 3600/- per month are offered 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 being

implemented by M/s. Educational Consultants India Limited (Ed.CIL) India Limited, an autonomous body under the Ministry of Human Resource Development. The scheme is open to NRIs/PIOs from 40 countries with substantial Indian Diaspora population.

A total of 278 candidates have availed of the scholarship scheme since its inception. Of the 126 candidates selected for the award of scholarship during the year 2009-10 only 72 have availed of the scholarship. With the result of the review of SPDC scheme, it has been decided to do away with the The Common Entrance Test (CET) for selecting PIO and NRI students for the award of scholarship. The revised procedure is to be implemented from the academic year 2010-11. The applications from the students who meet the prescribed eligibility criteria are to be evaluated and shortlisted by a selection committee consisting of officers from Ministry of HRD, EdCIL (India) Ltd. and MOIA.

III PIO/NRI UNIVERSITY

In keeping with the recommendations made by the High Level Committee on the Indian Diaspora (HLCID) and commitments made at the highest level, the Ministry is in the process of setting up a PIO/NRI University for the benefit of children of overseas Indians. The University is expected to be accorded the status of "Deemed University" *de-novo* under Section 3 of the UGC Act. The University would be set up by Manipal Academy of Higher Education Trust (MAHET), Manipal at Bangalore, Karnataka. MAHET has submitted a Detailed Project Report (DPR). An Advisory Board has been constituted to evaluate the DPR with a view to ensure that it conforms to the academic and infrastructure standards prescribed by the concerned

authorities like the UGC, AICTE, and MCI etc. The board held two meetings and approved, in principle, the DPR submitted by the MAHET. As per the recommendations of the Advisory Board, work is underway to draft a Bill for Parliament for setting up the university and four more such universities in different cities in India. Around 60 proposals for setting up of four more universities have been received in response to advertisements published by the Ministry in February and June 2009 calling of Expressions of Interest (EOIs). These EOIs are being examined.

IV. PRAVASI BHARATIYA DIVAS (PBD)

Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (PBD) convention is the flagship event of the Ministry organized every year in January since 2003, with a view to connect India to its vast Indian diaspora and bringing their knowledge, expertise and skills on a common platform.

The 8th edition of the *Pravasi Bharatiya Divas* convention was held in New Delhi from 7th to 9th January, 2010. The Convention was organised in partnership with the Government of NCT of Delhi. The Confederation of Indian

Industry (CII) was the institutional partner. It was inaugurated by the Prime Minister on 08.01.2010 and the valedictory address was delivered by the President on 09.01.2010. The President also conferred the Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Award on 14 distinguished PIOs/NRIs. Lord Khalid Hameed CBE DL Hampstead was the Chief Guest.

The two-day convention saw a **RECORD PARTICIPATION OF OVER 1500 DELEGATES**. These included 16 Members of the Prime Minister's Global Advisory Council and 8 PIO Ministers, besides 12 Union Ministers and 5 Chief Ministers and other Indian and PIO dignitaries.

The flagship event of the Ministry was widely acclaimed as a grand success both for its organizational aspects and its substantive content, as also for the choice of speakers and the topicality of the themes chosen for deliberation at its various sessions. The two pre-conference seminars on "Nanotechnology" and "Property-related issues of overseas Indians" drew enthusiastic participation of all stake-holders and came in for appreciation from several quarters. The first meeting of the Prime Minister's Global Advisory Council was another highlight of this year's mega-event.

The Convention had three Plenary Sessions - Diaspora: Role and Expectations, Diaspora: Interests and Concerns & Skills Development; six concurrent sessions - Returning to 9% Growth: Diaspora Connect, Leveraging Knowledge Networks: Global-Ink, Thousands of Fireflies: Diaspora Philanthropy, Diaspora Women in Cross-Cultural Environments, Indians and the Gulf and Future of PBDs and the Road Ahead as well as separate State Sessions.



V. HIGHLIGHTS OF PBD 2010

- Record participation over 1500 delegates
- Attendance by a host of dignitaries from abroad
- Inauguration of an online portal developed by OIFC by Prime Minister
- First meeting of Global Advisory Council of Overseas Indians chaired by PM
- Three Plenary sessions, six concurrent sessions besides separate State Sessions
- Two pre-conferences seminars on 'Nano-technology' and 'Property-related issues of Overseas Indians'.

VI PRAVASI BHARATIYA SAMMAN AWARD (PBSA)

The Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Award (PBSA) is conferred on a Non-Resident Indian, Person of Indian origin or an organization or institution established and run by the Non-Resident Indians or Persons of Indian Origin, who have excelled in one's field for outstanding work which has enhanced India's prestige in the country of residence and who has made (i) significant contribution towards better understanding abroad of India and support to India's causes and concerns in a tangible way; (ii) significant contribution for the welfare of diaspora; (iii) notable contribution in philanthropic and charitable work and for social and humanitarian causes in India and abroad; (iv) significant contribution in building closer links between India and its diaspora in the economic, cultural and scientific fields; and (v) for eminence in his skills which has enhanced India's prestige in that country (for non-professional workers). It is conferred by the President of India as a part of the Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (PBD) conferences organized annually since 2003. PBSA is the highest honour

conferred on overseas Indians. PBSA 2010 were conferred on the following :

1. Mr. Mohinder Singh Bhullar
2. Mr. Yanktesh Permal Reddy
3. Mr. Ryuko Hira
4. (Mrs) Dr. Ruby Umesh Pawankar
5. Mr. Suresh Kumar Virmani
6. Mr. Pravin Jamnadas Gordhan
7. Dr. Tholisiah Perumal Naidoo
8. Dr. Rajni Kanabar
9. Mr. Deepak Mittal
10. Dr. Lenny Krishendath Saith
11. Dr. Azad Moopen
12. Dr. Mani Lal Bhaumik
13. Mr. Ashok Kumar Mago
14. Mr. Upendra J. Chivukula



VII. PBD- EUROPE

The third in the series called 'PBD-Europe' was held at the World Forum in The Hague on 19.09.009. The event was organized in partnership with the Municipality of The Hague. The Foundation for Critical Choices for India (FCCI), Netherlands India Association (NIA), Netherlands Chapter of GOPIO, UJALA Association of Surinamese people and EEKTA Association of Surinamese people were the Netherlands-based organizations which participated in the event.

VIII. SEMINAR ON PROPERTY RELATED ISSUES OF NRIs/PIOs

A seminar on Property related issues of NRIs/PIOs has been organized on 7th January 2010 as a prelude to the Pravasi Bharatiya Diwas 2010. The idea was to provide a forum to NRIs/PIOs to discuss their property related issues and to exchange views on the different aspects of the matter from the eminent speakers invited to the seminar.

The participants gave presentations on the concerns of overseas Indians on property related issues. The legal aspects of the property owning/tenancy in India were also discussed. There was also interactive session in the seminar wherein the specific queries were taken by the representatives of central and state governments, representatives of real estate developers and legal experts in property related issues etc.

IX. ONE-DAY SEMINAR ON INDIAN DIASPORA IN THE CARIBBEAN

A one-day Seminar on Indian Diaspora in the Caribbean was organized at Port of Spain, Trinidad & Tobago on 16 August, 2009 by the Ministry in coordination with the High Commission of India, Port of Spain. It was co-sponsored by the University of West Indies, Global Organization of Persons of Indian Origin (GOPIO), Trinidad Chapter and the National Council of Indian Culture (NCIC) based in Trinidad and Tobago.

Besides the inaugural session, the Seminar had discussions on "Language and Cultural Heritage: Issues & Challenges for the Indian Diaspora" and "Role of customs, rituals, music, dance and cinema in promoting linkages". Speakers from Trinidad and Tobago, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica and

Suriname participated in the event which was attended by over one hundred and fifty persons.

H.E. Dr. Lenny K. Saith, Minister in the Office of the Prime Minister of Trinidad & Tobago was the Chief Guest for the occasion.

X TRACING THE ROOTS

The Ministry launched a Scheme called "Tracing the Roots" in October, 2008. In this regard, the Ministry signed an MOU with an organization called "Indiroots" to facilitate tracing the roots of POI's in India. As per the Scheme, PIOs, who intend to trace the roots of their ancestors in India, have to apply in a prescribed form through the Indian Mission/Post in the country of their residence. Under the Scheme, the roots of four PIOs (two from Trinidad, West Indies, one from Durban, South Africa, one from Brunei) have been successfully traced and the reports have been communicated to the concerned PIO through Missions/posts. . .

XI KNOW INDIA PROGRAMME (KIP)

Know India Programmes of the Ministry is organized with the objective of familiarizing 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. The Programme provides a unique forum for students and young professionals of Indian origin to visit India, share their views, expectations and experiences and to bond closely with contemporary India. The participants are selected based on nominations received from Indian Missions/Posts abroad. They are provided with full hospitality and are reimbursed 90% of their economy class air-fare from their respective country to India and back.

The content of the programme broadly includes the following:

- (a) Presentations on the country, the constitution, political process etc.
- (b) Interaction with faculty and students at a prestigious University/ College/Institute.
- (c) Presentation on the industrial development and visit to some Industries
- (d) Visit to a village to better understand the typical village life
- (e) Exposure to Indian media and Film Industry.
- (f) Interaction with NGOs and organizations dealing with women affairs.
- (g) Visit to places of historical importance/Monuments.
- (h) Taking part in Cultural programmes
- (i) Exposure to yoga
- (j) Call on high dignitaries, which may include President of India, Chief Election Commissioner of India, Comptroller and Auditor General of India, and Ministers in-charge of Overseas Indian Affairs, Youth Affairs and Sports.

During 2009-10, three (3) Know India Programmes were arranged with participation from 98 overseas Indian youth.

- (i) 11th KIP in partnership with the States of Orissa & Punjab from 21st March 2009 to 12th April 2009. 22 participants from 9 countries took part in it.
- (ii) 12th KIP in partnership with the States of Karnataka and Himachal Pradesh from 24th September to 16th October 2009 Thirty six youths of Indian origin from 11 countries took part in the programme.
- (iii) 13th KIP in partnership with the States of Kerala and Rajasthan from 28th December, 2009 to 20th January, 2010. 40 participants from

16 countries participated in it. The participants attended the Pravasi Bharatiya Divas event, 2010 – a platform that brings together eminent overseas Indians from all over the world.

The Ministry also hosted 12 participants of Know Goa Programme for their Delhi and Agra part of the programme in December 2009. Know Goa programme are organized by the Government of Goa for NRI/PIO youths whose forefathers have migrated from Goa and are presently residing overseas.

Know India Program Website made interactive

The social network on the Know India Program website was launched. The Website is now interactive and nearly 80 past participants of the Know India Programs have already become members on this social network, an initiative of the Ministry. The Ministry has conducted thirteen KIPs so far and a total number of 410 overseas Indian youth have participated in these programs upto now.

XII PROBLEMS RELATING TO OVERSEAS INDIAN MARRIAGES

Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs (MOIA) has taken various steps to address the problems arising out of marriages with overseas Indians. Some of them are as under:-

i) DESIGNATION OF A COORDINATING AGENCY TO DEAL WITH THE ISSUE OF PROBLEMATIC NRI MARRIAGES

Parliamentary Committee on “Empowerment of Woman“ (EWC) (14th Lok Sabha) on the subject” Plight of Indian woman deserted by NRI

husbands” had recommended to evolve a well defined /coordinated mechanism to deal with the issue of problematic NRI marriages .

An Inter Ministerial meeting convened in the Ministry considered the recommendation of EWC and decided that National Commission for Women (NCW) be made the coordinating agency at the national level to receive and process all the complaints related to deserted Indian women by their overseas spouses.

In pursuance of above decision, National Commission for Women (NCW), has been designated by this Ministry as a coordinating agency at National level to receive and process all the complaints related to Indian women deserted by their overseas Indian husbands. Chief Secretaries of all State/ Administrators of all Union Territories and Heads of Indian Missions /Posts abroad have been advised of this decision and requested to take further action accordingly.

Consequent to that, NCW has formally launched an NRI Cell to deal with problems of Indian women deserted by their NRI husbands on 27th August, 2009 to render all possible assistance to victims of NRI marriages, look into complaints and also to take suo-moto notice on any issue brought to the notice of NRI Cell in accordance with section 10 (1) (f) of the National Commission for Women Act, 1990 read with Sub-Section 4 of Section 10 and Section 8 of the Act.

ii) SCHEME FOR GIVING LEGAL /FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO INDIAN WOMEN DESERTED BY THEIR OVERSEAS INDIAN SPOUSES

The Ministry had launched a Scheme to provide legal and financial assistance through Indian Missions abroad to Indian women deserted or divorced by their overseas Indian spouses. After taking the views of the Indian Missions /Posts concerned, the existing limit of assistance under the scheme has been enhanced from US \$ 1,000 to US \$ 1,500 per case to render more assistance to deserted women.

iii) ORGANIZATION OF ONE DAY NATIONAL CONVENTION IN COLLABORATION WITH NGO

Vividh Vikas Samithi , a Delhi based NGO in collaboration with MOIA conducted one day National Convention on “**Indian Mission to help jilted NRI Brides**” in New Delhi on 20th April, 2009. The main objectives of the convention were to study the problems of jilted NRI brides who are abandoned by their NRI husbands, to identify and analyze constrains and barriers of NRI marriages , main reasons of breaking NRI marriages, the role of various NRI organizations in protecting the rights of abandoned brides etc. The convention was attended by senior bureaucrats from Government of India, Advocates, NGOs, Journalist, women victims of NRI marriages etc.

MIGRATION MANAGEMENT

I. INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION: AN OVERVIEW

Last year saw a downturn in the world economy resulting in recessionary pressure or severe slowdown in the economy of the major developed countries. As a result of this millions of jobs were lost across the world. Migrant workers were also adversely affected. These workers contribute not only to the development of the country where they live and work but also to the economy of the country of origin. The remittances sent home by these migrant workers have a profound impact on the living standards of people in the developing countries of Asia, Africa, Latin America and the Middle East. Despite the deceleration of the outflow of workers to the Gulf – close to 25 percent reduction in emigration -the flow of remittance receipts from overseas Indian workers increased by 7.8 percent to US\$ 46.9 billion during 2008-2009 from US\$ 43.5 billion during the 2007-08.

In one of the enduring ironies of the present times, we live in a world in which the free movement of capital, goods, and technology is seen as a virtue, but also one in which the movement of people across borders is more difficult than ever in the past. Ironically, in a rapidly globalising world, legal migration is being rendered increasingly difficult. It is in this backdrop that we must see the growing problem of illegal migration and people smuggling. Quite simply, migration is more likely in the future to be propelled

by the labour supply gaps of the global market. It is our conviction that labour mobility and matching of demand for and supply of skills will be substantially determine the pace, the direction and the future growth prospects of the global economy. The question is no longer whether to allow migration, but indeed, how to manage migration effectively to enhance its positive effects on development and mitigate the negative. Which forms of migration are desirable, and should be facilitated and under what circumstances? Which forms are undesirable and need to be prevented?

II. THE POLICY PERSPECTIVE

Growing mobility of labour in a globalizing economy, emerging population and demographic dynamics, as well as enhanced security concerns, have together underlined the importance of good migration management to transform it into an efficient, orderly and humane process. Equally, there is an urgent need to address the problem of illegal migration. Curbing irregular migration is an issue of concern not only in the developed countries but also in the developing world. This has social and security ramifications which are now well beyond mere law-enforcement and need to be appropriately addressed by the countries involved.

In this background even as nations strive to restore economic order, it is our conviction that countries of origin and destination must together strive to achieve a 'minimum policy

harmonisation' on migration. Given India's long experience in migration, it is our considered view that such minimum policy harmonization is eminently achievable and can be the basis for a robust programme of International cooperation in migration that will maximize the benefits of development for all. Such a programme can result in well calibrated migratory flows that will best meet the needs of all countries concerned.

India is a major country of origin with an estimated 30 million Indians overseas, spread across 110 countries. What is less known, however, is that India is today home to an estimated 20 million immigrants, many of them, irregular migrants. As a major country of origin and destination India is an important player in International migration. The strategy of the ministry has been to evolve a coherent, liberal and progressive migration policy. Emphasis has been on introducing reforms and implementing best practices in migration management covering all stakeholders in the migration process. In doing so the ministry has been led by four principles:

- Facilitate legal migration by making the process simple, transparent and efficient.
- Actively prevent illegal migration by acting in tandem with the states against unscrupulous middlemen and those indulging in people smuggling
- Capacity building amongst all the stakeholders - end to end - in the migration process
- Proactively pursuing and strengthening bilateral and multilateral cooperation

To articulate and implement the policy reforms an Emigration Policy Division was created in the Ministry in

March 2006. It deals with all policy matters relating to emigration of workers from India. Its main responsibilities include formulation of policies for improving emigration management, legislative reforms, emigration reforms including institutional changes, e-Governance, formulation of welfare schemes for emigrants and strengthening bilateral and multilateral cooperation in International migration.

III. SYSTEMIC REFORMS IN EMIGRATION

International migration is of strategic importance to the world as it is to India. As cross border investment and trade gains momentum, market access is significantly enhanced across countries and economic integration widens in the global economy, the free movement of natural persons across borders will become a natural corollary and a necessary condition to sustain growth. Economic rationale combined with demographic pressures will necessitate calibrated, orderly and well managed migration of skills. The vast reservoir of young, skilled and trained manpower that India possesses makes emigration a key opportunity area in the medium to long term. Therefore, the ministry is pursuing a proactive policy to transform the emigration process into a simple, transparent and humane process. The focus is on making Indian workers skilled, trained and competitive to meet the best standards of productivity in the International labour market. This is being done through systemic interventions at the national and sub- national levels in partnership with the Chambers of Commerce and Industry as well as relevant Knowledge partners from the private sector. These national efforts are also being reinforced through appropriate bilateral and multilateral initiatives.

To transform emigration into an orderly economic process and constitute a 'win-win' for all stakeholders, the Ministry has taken several initiatives including computerization of the emigration clearance system, a comprehensive e-Governance project, modernizing the emigration law and capacity building amongst stakeholders. Memoranda of Understanding are being signed with the host countries for bilateral cooperation in deployment and protection of workers. Efforts are underway to diversify the overseas destination base for Indian workers through labour mobility partnerships with countries with which India shares strong economic and trade relations and constitute focus countries in our strategy. Bilateral social security agreements are also being pursued with several countries to protect the social security interests of professionals on a reciprocal basis and to make companies on both sides more competitive.

The recruitment experience since the enactment of the Emigration Act in 1983 has shown severe shortcomings. It is now proposed to revamp the recruitment system to make it more professional and accountable. This will entail setting statutory compliance standards, service delivery standards, performance audit of recruiters and an annual rating exercise. All these measures are expected to be in place in the ensuing financial year. To give an empirical basis to policy making and to advise the Government on overseas employment matters and to develop strategies and good practices in migration management through appropriate research and studies, the Ministry has recently established the Indian Council of Overseas Employment.

IV. 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. The need has been felt to modernize the legislative framework that governs emigration of Indians for overseas employment. It has been considered appropriate that the Emigration Act and the Emigration Rules need to be comprehensively overhauled to convert them into effective instruments for facilitating legal migration, preventing irregular migration and empowering emigrants.

The modernization of the legislative framework will seek to reflect the objective conditions of International migration as it obtains in the world today and will seek to address some of the key questions that countries of origin and destination are grappling with. The effort will be based on the following principles:

1. The law should facilitate overseas employment of workers.
2. The emigration process should be simple and transparent.
3. The law should lay down the roles and responsibilities of key stakeholders in emigration
4. The law should set appropriate performance standards for each stakeholder.
5. The law should create an alternative and more effective paradigm for protection and welfare of emigrants.
6. The law should prescribe adequate penalties to effectively curb illegal recruitments, irregular migration and human smuggling.

The Ministry has done away with the requirement of “ECR Suspension” to enable 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 liberalized 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 only 17 countries (ECR countries). All other 175 countries have been notified as ECNR countries.

V. E- GOVERNANCE IN EMIGRATION

The Ministry is implementing a comprehensive e-governance project on migration. The ultimate benefit of the project would be greater convenience, effective protection and better welfare of the emigrant. The subsidiary benefits would include greater levels of efficiency, transparency and accountability in the functioning of the offices of the Protector General of Emigrants (PGE) and the Protectors of Emigrants (POE), real-time updation and quick access to reliable emigrant data, management information system to support decision making, computerized management of recruiting agent system, performance rating of protectors of emigrants, recruiting agents & employers, effective monitoring of emigration offences, interlinking of stakeholders and online validation of information across stakeholders. The project is expected to mitigate individual discretion, harassment of emigrants and corruption. It would also provide useful tools and data for policy functions, periodical publications and grievance redressal.

The project involves full automation of POE offices & PGE office, 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 appropriate MIS. The project would develop integrated modules on recruiting agent system, emigration clearance system, immigration control system, complaint management system, RA rating system and the contract attestation system. Smart cards would be issued to the emigrants under the project after examining all pros and cons to ensure that the benefits are commensurate with the cost to the emigrant.

The National Institute of Smart Governance (NISG) has been appointed as the consultants. The project is expected to be completed by 2011.

VI. BILATERAL LABOUR COOPERATION

India had signed labour agreements with Jordan and Qatar in 1980s. However, no further progress was made in this direction for many years. The Ministry, after its creation in 2004, has therefore made concerted efforts to enter into bilateral Memoranda of Understanding (MoU) with all the 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 Kuwait in April 2007; with Oman in November 2008, with Malaysia in January 2009 and with Baharain in June 2009.. An Additional Protocol to the existing Labour Agreement between India and Qatar was signed on 20th November, 2007. The following broad principles have been built into these MoUs:

- (i) Declaration of mutual intent to enhance employment opportunities

and for bilateral cooperation in protection and welfare of workers.

- (ii) The host Country to take measures for protection and welfare of the workers in organized sector.
- (iii) Statement of the broad procedure that the foreign employer shall follow to recruit Indian workers.
- (iv). The recruitment and terms of employment to be in conformity of 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.

MOUs have been proposed with Yemen and Libya too. Efforts are underway to explore the possibility of a similar MoU with Saudi Arabia.

Regular meetings of JWG are important for resolving bilateral labour issues arising from time to time and also monitoring the implementation of the MOU. The JWG serves as a platform to deal with issues such as model contract, minimum wages, documentation requirements, labour dispute redressal, retention of passports, substitution of contracts, dealing with recalcitrant employers, practical 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 work contract format problem with Kuwait. Similarly, a model labour contract is being finalized by the Indo- 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 2nd round of JWG in Kuwait

on 13-14th Jan.,2010 in a very cordial atmosphere.

VII. LABOUR MOBILITY PARTNERSHIPS

India's strength in terms of availability of 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 globalization of economies. A Labour Mobility Partnership can lay down an effective framework for bilateral cooperation for maximizing benefits from labour mobility and minimizing 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 for the countries of origin, the countries of destination and the migrant workers. It is in this context that the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs is taking steps to build labour mobility partnerships with key countries of destination in the European Union. A labour mobility partnership has been signed with Denmark. The Ministry has initiated the process for negotiating labour mobility agreements with Poland, Czech Republic, Norway, Switzerland and Hungary, Sweden and France.

Since India and the EU countries have complementary needs, the proposed Labour Mobility Partnerships 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 the Labour Mobility Partnerships by protecting the workers against dual contribution for 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 the EU Member States in the arena of international labour migration. Since India is fast emerging as a country of destination also on account of its rapid economic growth and investment from overseas, the Labour Mobility Partnership would greatly benefit the EU nationals in the times to come. The Ministry is also exploring the possibility of an Indo-EU LMP as well.

VIII. BILATERAL SOCIAL SECURITY AGREEMENTS

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 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 amongst the list of 187 types of establishments under the Employees Provident Fund Act 1952 are required to mandatorily contribute (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 contribution in the home country as per the local law, they are compelled to pay 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 contribution 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 law 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 due to the high rate of social security tax, double taxation erodes the competitive edge of companies on both sides.

Bilateral social security agreements (SSA) can, on a reciprocal basis, protect the interests of such workers by exempting the posted workers from social security contribution 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 pension in 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 totalization of contribution periods covered under the two legislations. Such agreements also make companies of both contracting States more competitive since exemption from social security contribution in respect of their employees substantially reduces costs.

Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs has signed bilateral social security agreements with Belgium, France, Germany, Switzerland, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Hungary and Denmark. These agreements provide for the following benefits to professionals, skilled workers and corporates on reciprocal basis:

1. Those posted for upto sixty 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.
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 totalized in order to determine the eligibility for pension.

5. Corporates in both countries will become more competitive since avoidance of double payment of social security substantially reduces costs.

Similar agreements have been finalized with Norway, Canada and the Republic of Korea, and are expected to be signed shortly. Negotiations are in progress with Bulgaria, Austria, Cyprus, Finland, Greece, Italy and Australia. Two rounds of exploratory talks have been held with the USA.

IX. INDIAN COUNCIL OF OVERSEAS EMPLOYMENT

In a rapidly globalizing world characterized by competition amongst the labour sending countries for optimizing benefits from international labour migration, there is 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 meet the expectations of the Overseas Indian Workers (OIW) as a significant constituency across the world.

In order to make Indian workers globally competitive there was an urgent need 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 the Indian youth.
- (ii) Positioning of potential Overseas Indian Workers 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 has 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 Government nominees 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 in the Executive Directorate. The Executive Director is the Chief Executive Officer of the Council.

The Council will perform the following broad 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 programs for skill development and skill upgradation in consultation with professional bodies and the private sector and promote employment opportunities abroad.
- (iv) Initiate pre-departure orientation programs for various categories of workers.
- (v) Coordinate with other employment promotion agencies, including the 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 international labour market,

problems faced by the emigrant Indian workers in India and abroad, benchmark the best practices of other labour sending countries and recommend policy initiatives/strategies.

The Council is functioning at ‘arms-length’ from Government and have the autonomy and flexibility to build strong public-private partnerships, engage proactively in capacity building across stake-holders and best implement well calibrated strategies for better market access for Indian workers to benefit from overseas employment opportunities in the medium to long-term.

The Council has signed MOU with European University Institute regarding research on migration of labour between EU and India, MOU with Hellenic Migration Policy Institute, Athens. India EU Scientific Group on Migration Policy formed. Two meetings had already been held in Florence and Bangalore. ICOE had also launched a scheme of research Internship Programme with JNU and Bangalore University.

X. ASIA-EU PROJECT

The Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs (MOIA) and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) signed an MOU in July 2007 for implementation of the project called “Regional Dialogue and Program on Facilitating Managed and Legal Migration between Asia and the European Union (EU)”. The project has been successfully completed in December 2008.

The project was sponsored by the European Union (EU) and was aimed at facilitating development of legal migration, enhancing regional cooperation on legal migration management, reducing irregular migration, enhancing placement capacity amongst recruiting agencies

and dissemination of information relating to employment opportunities and procedures to intending emigrants. Specific activities would be undertaken under the project to enhance the capacity of MOIA to assess and respond to the manpower needs in the EU, to enhance cooperation between India and the EU countries in the field of migration management and to educate potential migrants about the opportunities in the EU, the migration procedures at both ends and the risks involved in deviating from these procedures.

The project has resulted in capacity augmentation in India for administering overseas employment programs to benefit from the emerging employment opportunities in the EU countries. At present most skilled and semi-skilled workers from India migrate to the Gulf countries and it is important to diversify the migration process to regions where major employment opportunities are likely to arise in the years to come. The project helped MOIA in terms of developing key competencies for designing and administering planned overseas employment programs to respond to the international labour market needs, which will immensely benefit Indian workers in times to come. An important outcome of the project was the setting up of the Migrant Resource Centres (MRCs) at Cochin and Hyderabad to serve as a single point contact and counseling centre for potential migrants. The Cochin MRC now serves as the model for establishing similar MRC's in other parts of the country.

XI. WELFARE FUNDS

Overseas Indian Workers are estimated at over 5 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 the 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.

These risks can best be mitigated through the institutional mechanism of an 'Indian Community Welfare Fund' that can, on a sustainable basis, support on-site, off-site and social security services for overseas Indian workers. Such services are currently adhoc and sporadic, with the expenditure met on an unfunded 'pay as you go' basis with resources mobilized through community support. Overseas workers often face difficult living and working conditions. Instances of workers exploited by the foreign employer or by unscrupulous intermediaries are often reported. Similarly there are cases of runaway house maids in need of assistance by way of shelter, food and medical facilities till the time of their repatriation. Apart from this the missions sometimes have to meet expenditure on the repatriation of the mortal remains of deceased workers.

In view of this, the Ministry has now set up the "Indian Community Welfare Fund (ICWF)" at the disposal of the Indian missions in all the ECR countries to meet contingency expenditure incurred by the Indian Missions for

carrying out the activities related to welfare of Overseas Indian Citizens'. Under this scheme the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs will provide funding support to the Indian Missions in all the 17 Emigration Clearance Required (ECR) Countries for the welfare of the workers in distress in the host countries.

The ICWF will provide the following services to emigrants on a means tested basis:

- (i) Boarding and lodging for distressed overseas Indians in Household/domestic sectors and unskilled workers;
- (ii) Expenditure on incidental to and Airlifting of mortal remains to India or local cremation/burial of the deceased overseas Indian in such cases where a sponsor is unable or unwilling to do so as per the contract and the family is unable to meet the cost;
- (iii) Extending emergency medical care to the overseas Indians in need;
- (iv) Providing air passage to stranded overseas Indians in need;
- (v) Providing initial legal assistance to the overseas Indians in deserving cases.

XII. I N F O R M A T I O N DISSEMINATION ON LEGAL MIGRATION

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

To overcome this difficulty the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs launched an Overseas Workers' Resource Centre (OWRC) to provide information and assistance to intending emigrants and the family members of overseas workers relating to all aspects of overseas employment. The OWRC was inaugurated by the Prime Minister of India during the 6th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas in New Delhi in January 2008. The OWRC is operating with a 24/7 toll free helpline (**1800 11 3090**) to provide need based information to emigrants and their families. The workers can also access the helpline from anywhere in the world at **91-11-40503090**. With a view to extend the services to support the Indian emigrants an international toll free line (**8 000 911 913**) has been established which is currently available for calls from UAE only. The complaints or grievances received on the toll free helpline are promptly attended to and feed back provided to the complainant. The helpline numbers are disseminated as a part of the multimedia awareness campaign organised by the Ministry.

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

The OWRC centre also trained the personnels from different MRC's to make them understand and learn the functioning of the Call Flow System which helped the emigrants to utilize knowledge in the best possible manner.

The OWRC team also participated in a conference held by the International Organisation of Migration (IOM), with a view to focus on building up a relationship between the MRCs and OWRC with an aim to provide efficient services to the emigrants.

During the year 2009 a total of 6513 calls were answered. The average Call Completion Ratio was 95%. The complaints mainly accounted for those against the recruiting agents for not giving promised Job & impounding passport & Visa. The enquiries mainly centered around authenticity of the recruiting agent, foreign employer, procedure to go abroad, authenticity of VISA, passport etc.

XIII. PARTNERING WITH THE JAWAHARLAL NEHRU UNIVERSITY (JNU)

The Ministry signed an Agreement with the Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) on 22nd May, 2008 for setting up a Research Programme on International Migration at the Zakir Husain Centre for Educational Studies (ZHCES), School of Social Sciences. The objective of the Research Programme is to undertake focused research over a period of 5 years on various aspects of International Migration from India, and to prepare policy / strategy briefs for the Ministry and to conduct Seminars /Conferences on different diaspora subjects. The major goals of the Research Programme will be three fold:

- To focus on the complex links between economic, social, political, cultural and educational aspects of globalization and migration.
- To develop collaborative research with other International bodies on major migration themes.
- To develop a Chair for focused research on various aspects of International Migration.

XIV. CONSULTATION MEETING WITH STATE GOVERNMENTS

An important initiative of the Ministry was organizing a two-day Consultation Meeting with the State Governments at New Delhi on 8th - 9th Sept., 2009 to discuss issues various relating to overseas Indians. Besides representatives of 15 State Governments, the meeting was attended by the representatives of Ministries of External Affairs, Labour and Home Affairs. The major recommendations that were made include:

- (i) All the States should establish an effective grievance redressal mechanism to deal with grievances / complaints of Overseas Indian Workers / Non Resident Indians on all matters including property disputes, etc. This effort must include designating a dedicated focal point (Civil) to take primary responsibility for complaint handling and grievance redressal in a time-bound manner. The focal point must be at least of the rank of Principal Secretary.
- (ii) For effective State intervention in upgrading the skills of our potential migrant workers, it is essential to establish an empowered multi-disciplinary Core Group to serve as a focal point for developing and overseeing the training, testing and certification needs on both Pre-departure orientation as well as skills for jobs abroad. Another focus area should be to develop training modules for women workers.
- (iii) The State should also set up Migrant Resource Centers (MRC) with dedicated Help lines to disseminate information, facilitate legal migration and for registering all complaints of overseas Indians for expeditious resolution. The States will chalk out plans for

- establishing MRCs and furnish details thereof to the MOIA, who in turn, shall ensure all possible help.
- (iv) Each State to have at least one public sector Recruitment Agency and the States may avail of the expertise and information as available with the ICOE.
 - (v) States should dedicate at least one page on their Websites for the Diaspora issues.
 - (vi) States who have seats in Technical Institutions and Institutes of Higher Studies, reserved for the NRIs and Indian Workers, should inform the MOIA the details thereof.
 - (vii) State Governments to inform the MOIA, in case any specific schemes are being undertaken by them in regard to PIOs.
 - (vii) States may partner with OIFC by becoming its members and availing of the services and expertise of it.
 - (viii) States may join Global INK of the OIFC which shall be think tank working on need based specific projects.
 - (ix) OIFC website can provide links to the sites of the State Governments in regard to investment avenues available in their states for which the State Governments to furnish details thereof.
 - (x) There was consensus that the State Governments would establish requisite institutional arrangements for implementing the recommendations of the Consultation Meeting and inform the Action Taken to the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs.
 - (xi) To set up an Inter-Ministerial Core Group to deal with the illegal migration from India under the Chairmanship of Secretary, MOIA. The Group has since been set up with representatives of Ministries of

Home Affairs, External Affairs, Labour & Employment, Women and Child Development, Intelligence Bureau, Bureau of Immigration and representatives of seven major labour sending States, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan. The first Meeting of the Core Group held on 17th November, 2009 suggested an Action Plan for implementation by the State Governments. The Action Plan envisages the following:

- Identification of the High Risk areas
- Carry out targeted information campaigns making people aware about the risks of irregular migration
- Developing institutional mechanism with in the States for coordination and concerted efforts including a Single Point of Contact for coordinating with Centre as well as line agencies with in the State on issues related to irregular Migration
- Creation of a robust information gathering and investigative mechanism with the District level nodal officers nominated for combating irregular Migration
- Capacity Building of police officials in dealing with the cases of irregular migration /Trafficking in person at the district / sub-district level and imparting of periodical training
- Creation of scientific data base on emigration / migration at the State level and Migration profiling
- Strict enforcement of Law against the unscrupulous Recruitment agents / Travel agents / sub-agents.

A broad template for facilitating the Action Plan by the State Governments has been drawn up and circulated by the Ministry to all major labour sending States for further follow up Action.

XV. ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE HEADS OF MISSIONS

The fourth Annual Conference of the Heads of Indian Missions in the six GCC Countries, Jordan, Libya, Yemen, Malaysia and the Maldives was held on 26th -27th November, 2009, at New Delhi. The Conference was attended by HOMs from eleven Missions, representatives of the Ministries of External Affairs, Labour & Employment and from seven State Governments. The Conference deliberated on a range of issues pertaining to the overseas Indians, especially, those who are in the Gulf. The important recommendations of the Conference include following:

- Operationalize the Indian Workers Resource Centre (IWRC) by 1st April 2010. The Kuwait model is recommended, but HOMs may customize to their specific conditions.
- Operationalize the Indian Community Welfare Centre (ICWF) immediately as per the approved scheme. The collection of surcharge will not exceed the limits prescribed under the scheme.
- Implement the computerized system of universal attestation of employment documents as per the module developed by the Ambassador of India, UAE as a part of the E-Governance project.
- Develop intelligence and share information with the PGE and the Chief Secretaries of the concerned states about the criminal activities of the Indian intermediaries operating from the host countries. The Chief Secretaries will ensure registration of criminal cases under the Indian Law and the PGE will follow up action and have the passports of these criminals impounded through the CPV Division of MEA.
- Activate the Joint Working Groups under Labour MOUs immediately and ensure their meetings by end of April 2010 as per the schedule agreed during the conference. The issues relating to model contracts, joint grievance redressal mechanism and rationalization of visa structure will be taken up in these meetings apart from the other country specific issues.
- Pursue with the Governments of Libya, Yemen and Maldives for commencing the negotiations on the proposed Labour MOUs so that the MOUs are signed during 2010-11.
- HOM in Saudi Arabia will pursue the matter with the Saudi Government to organize during the first half of 2010 a bilateral meeting on labour issues between the authorities concerned on both sides.
- Finalize country manuals by incorporating necessary changes in the manual developed by the CDS, Thiruvananthapuram. HOMs will develop suitable manuals in case of countries for which CDS has not developed the manuals.
- HOMs will take steps to encourage direct interactions by the large and well established Foreign Employers to facilitate recruitment of workers on a direct mode through the Government agencies in the States like Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Haryana, Rajasthan, Punjab etc. Towards this end, the HOMs will facilitate direct interaction with the Foreign Employers on one side and the PGE and the State Government recruiting agencies on the other side.
- A Transit Shelter will be established at Mumbai by Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs before the end of the current financial year for providing

temporary lodging and boarding facility to repatriate and returnee emigrants arriving at odd hours.

- A closed User Group online system linking the HOMs, PGE and the Secretaries concerned or the Nodal Officers of the States will be established by MOIA to respond on real time basis to emergencies, apart from effective complaint management, expeditious grievance redressal and timely information exchange.

XVI. SKILL UP-GRADATION AND PRE-DEPARTURE ORIENTATION PROGRAMME.

The economies of the world are getting increasingly integrated in this era of globalization. This is rapidly changing the way in which business is conducted. Production chains are being globalized. Free trade agreements are being signed. Cross border trade and investments are rapidly expanding. All these factors have led to increased mobility of natural persons across borders. However, this enhanced mobility of workers presupposes appropriate skills. The matching of the demand for and the supply of skill sets that are benchmarked against international standards has, therefore, increased. It is important that the countries of origin create the necessary policy and management framework for development of skills that best meet the demands of the international labour market.

India is known as a source of skilled manpower all over the world. The Indian diaspora is essentially a 'knowledge' diaspora. India has a large and young population. It also has a vast and robust infrastructure for technical and vocational education. These factors put together create a huge potential for demographic dividend. However, this potential can only be actualized if there

is focus on upgrading the skill of those intending to avail employment opportunities in the international labour market.

The Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs has launched a national skill upgradation and pre-departure orientation programme. The Scheme essentially provides financial assistance to implementing agencies. The Scheme is being implemented through State Governments, Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, Industry Associations (CII and ASSOCHAM) and non government institutions. Recently an MOU has been signed with CII to implement a pilot project on skill upgradation in the healthcare, hospitality and construction sectors. The pilot project would comprise benchmarking of skill standards in the identified sectors at par with the international standards, standardized curriculum, accreditation of training providers, independent skill assessment, standardized certification etc.

The Ministry has set up a Core Group for the critical review of the scheme with a view to develop an appropriate framework for encouraging development of skills for intending emigrants at par with international standards through the market in a sustainable and commercially viable mode based on standardization, accreditation and skill recognition. The CII Pilot Project will provide the appropriate learning for developing the framework.

The Ministry will also involve the ICOE and IOM in conducting studies and market research to support the skill upgradation initiative.

XVII. INDO-UAE PILOT PROJECT

Twenty Asian Governments had met in Abu Dhabi on January 21 and 22,

2008 to participate in a “Ministerial Consultation on Overseas Employment and Contractual Labour for Countries of Origin and Destination in Asia”. The Meeting culminated in the unanimous adoption of the Abu Dhabi Declaration which called for a collaborative approach to better manage temporary labour mobility and maximize its benefits for the foreign workers and development of both Countries of origin and destination. The success of the temporary contractual employment cycle requires the establishment of a holistic approach that:

- Protects workers from all forms of exploitation;
- Guarantees fair and safe working conditions and the ability of workers to seek redressal of their legitimate grievances;
- Prepares workers for their return to their home Country after they fulfill the terms of their contract;
- Helps workers reintegrate successfully in their home communities.

To attain these goals, the Abu Dhabi Declaration called for the launching of a series of partnerships for development with the aim of increasing the benefits of temporary contractual labour to workers, employers, economics and societies of the labour origin and labour destination Countries. Subsequently, the Governments of India, Philippines, and United Arab Emirates have launched a Pilot Project on Temporary Labour Mobility Partnership to test and identify the best practices in the administration of contractual employment cycle. The partners envisage that the lessons learned from the Pilot Project would form the basis for the development of a draft comprehensive regional multilateral framework for the larger group of Asian Countries of origin and destination that participated in the Abu Dhabi

Declaration. The three Governments, in consultation with International Labour Organization (ILO), the Arab Labour Organization (ALO), and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) have formed a Steering Committee to assist in the formulation of a draft comprehensive regional framework based on lessons learned from the Pilot Project.

The specific objective of the Pilot project is to introduce in four Phases policies and procedures that would improve the following:

- Phase I Ensuring fair and efficient recruitment and pre-deployment of temporary contractual workers;
- Phase II Treating workers with dignity during their employment and residency in the labour destination Countries;
- Phase III Preparation of temporary contractual workers for their return to their Country of origin;
- Phase IV Successful reintegration of temporary contractual workers in their respective home communities.

The Pilot Project focuses on three specific sectors, viz., Construction, Health care and Hospitality. The Project Management Team based in the United Arab Emirates oversees the implementation of the Pilot Project in India which is under the charge of a Country Coordinator. The Project Management Team will identify workers in Construction, Health Care and Hospitality Sectors and oversee their recruitment and employment in the four phases.

XVIII 8th ASEM CONFERENCE OF DIRECTOR GENERALS OF IMMIGRATION OF ASIA-EU STATES.

The Ministry organized 8th Conference of the Director General of the Asia-European Union States 1st and 2nd Dec. 2009 in Goa. It was attended by the 45 states including the representatives of the European Union and the IOM. There were two sessions followed by separate group discussions of the ASIA and European Union countries separately; The following decisions were taken:

- It focused on curbing illegal migration.
- There should be mutual Co-operation in filling the supply and Demand Gaps.



XIX SIGNING OF THE MOU WITH BAHRAIN

Bahrain is an important destination Country for Indian workers. There are an estimated 3.5 lakh expatriate Indians in Bahrain, out of a total population of 5.10 lakhs expatriates in the Country. 70

percent of the migrant Indian workers are blue collar workers while 20 percent are white collar and 10 percent are professionals. Most of the Indian workers work in industries, construction and household sectors. During 2008, about 31,924 workers emigrated to Bahrain on ECR passports after obtaining emigration clearance from the Protectors of Emigrants.

2. With a view to lay down a framework for bilateral co-operation for the promotion of employment and for the protection and welfare of our workers, Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Government of Bahrain.
3. The salient features of the MoU on Labour and Manpower Development between the two Countries are:
 - (i) Facilitation of employment of workers between the two countries;
 - (ii) Broad procedure for employment of workers;
 - (iii) Responsibilities of the employers and workers;
 - (iv) Bilateral co-operation to facilitate the mobilization and recruitment of manpower and exchange of expertise, knowledge and experience in job creation and generation of employment opportunity;
 - (v) Protection and welfare of all categories of workers under the labour laws and other relevant laws of the host country;
 - (vi) Authentication of the work contract between Employer

- and the employee by the Ministry of Labour of the Kingdom of Bahrain.
- (vii) Constitution of a Joint Committee to implement the MoU in general and to perform the following functions in particular:
- (a) to review employment opportunities and availability of corresponding skills in both countries;
 - (b) to co-ordinate between the two States in the implementation of this Memorandum of Understanding and take such further action as may be found necessary;
 - (c) to interpret the provisions of the Memorandum of Understanding in case of any dispute in this regard and to settle the difficulties that might arise in the implementation.
 - (d) to propose review or amendment of any of the Articles of this Memorandum of Understanding whenever necessary.

PROTECTOR GENERAL OF EMIGRANTS

I. OPERATIONS:

The operational matters relating to emigration, the provision of emigration services to emigrants and the enforcement of Emigration Act, 1983 are 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 eight field offices of the Protectors of Emigrants, listed in Annexure D.

The Emigration Act, 1983, which came into effect from 30th December, 1983 embodies the guidelines enunciated by the Supreme Court of Indian in its judgment and order dated 20.03.1979 (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 under the law for protection of emigrants. The Act regulates recruitment for overseas employment and departure of the intending emigrants from India. It provides for penalties against offences.

Section 16 of the Emigration Act, 1983 provides 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 Protector General of Emigrants (PGE) has been empowered by the Central Government to also function as the Registering Authority to regulate the recruitment through recruiting agents and as Competent Authority to regulate direct recruitment by employers. The recruiting agents are required to obtain the Demand Letter, Power of Attorney and Specimen Employment Contract (all in original) from the 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 case of vulnerable categories of workers, i.e. 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, thirteen categories of persons have been exempted from this requirement (Annexure B). Such persons are entitled to the 'Emigration Check Not Required' passport (also called 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 ECR passport (bearing 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** (including Iraq to which emigration has been banned) for which emigration check is required (only by ECR passport holders). Insurance of the intending emigrant under the Pravasi Bharatiya Bima Yojna (PBBY) is compulsory for emigration clearance.

II. TRENDS IN EMIGRATION

There are about five million overseas Indian workers all over the world. More than 90% of these workers are in the Gulf countries and Southeast Asia. During 2009 about 6.10 lakh workers emigrated from India with emigration clearance. Out of this, about 1.30 lakh workers went to UAE, about 2.81 lakh to Saudi Arabia, about 46,000 to Qatar and about 11,000 to Malaysia. Uttar Pradesh, Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh were the leading sourcing states.

Major outflow of emigrant workers in the last few years from India has been to the Gulf countries where about four million workers are estimated to be employed. 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 expiry of their contractual employment. There had been a consistent and steady increase in the number of persons emigrating for employment abroad from the year 2004 onwards till 2008. The year 2009 has however registered a downtrend in the number of emigrants by about 28% as compared to the previous year i.e. 2008. The number of emigration clearances granted by the eight offices of the Protector of Emigrants was 8.49 lakhs in 2008 and in the year 2009 the figure was 6.10 lakhs. KSA is the main destination for Indian workers followed by UAE. Outside the gulf region, the intake of Indian manpower by Malaysia has shown a significant and consistent increase till 2005. There is considerable decline noticed since 2006. Employment for Indian workers in these countries holds a great potential. The number of workers who were given emigration clearance for contractual employment abroad during the last five years and data on distribution of labour outflows is detailed in **Tables A, B and C**.

III. REMITTANCES

The employment of Indian workers abroad helps to earn foreign exchange and thereby adds to the foreign exchange reserves of the country. The private transfer of foreign exchange from the year 2001-2002 onwards is given in Table – D. It may be observed that there has been a steady increase in the remittances from US\$ 15.8 billion in 2001-2002 to US\$ 46.9 billion in 2008-09. It is assessed that a significant proportion of this 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 registering authority, i.e., the Protector General of Emigrants (PGE). The fee prescribed (Rule 7) for registration is Rs.25,000/-. Initially, the Registration Certificate (RC) is valid for a period of ten years.

The form for applying for registration as recruiting agent may be obtained, free of charge, from the Office of the Protector-General of Emigrants and may also be downloaded from the website www.moia.gov.in. The applicant is required to deposit Bank Guarantee of thirteen years' validity for an amount of rupees twenty lakh.

The registration of Recruiting Agents under the Emigration Act, 1983, commenced from January, 1984, and as on 31-12-2009, there are 2057 recruiting agents. This figure includes nine State Manpower Export Corporations established in the States of Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Punjab, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Himachal Pradesh, Haryana and Delhi. Major concentration of Recruiting Agents is at Mumbai, Delhi, Chennai and Kerala.

V. ENFORCEMENT AND GRIEVANCE REDRESSAL

Complaints are received about exploitation of overseas Indian workers. Such complaints often pertain to non-payment/ delayed payment of wages, unilateral changes in the contract of workers, changing the jobs arbitrarily etc. In extreme cases, the workers are not given any employment at all and are left in the lurch in the foreign country. Such workers, besides suffering untold misery,

also become a burden on our Missions. In such instances, the Protector General of Emigrants (PGE) steps in and asks the concerned Recruiting Agent (RA) to get the workers repatriated on his expense. If the RA fails to do, action is taken to suspend/cancel his registration and forfeit his Bank Guarantee to pay for the repatriation expenses.

Complaints against Recruiting Agents are enquired into with the help of POEs and the concerned Indian Missions. Complaints against un-registered agents are referred to the concerned Police authorities for investigation and action under the law of the land.

All State Governments and UT Administrations have been advised to instruct all Police Stations to keep a strict vigil on the activities of unscrupulous agents. Complaints against foreign employers are taken up with the Indian Missions and if need be the employer is blacklisted.

During 2009 registration certificates of 19 recruiting agents were cancelled. As on 31.12.2009, 385 foreign employers were on the blacklist. During 2009 we received 114 complaints. Prosecution sanctions were issued in 12 cases in 2009 based on police report.

VI. SIMPLIFICATION OF PROCEDURES

- Number of ECR countries have been reduced to 18 from earlier 153 countries with effect from December, 2006. The number has further reduced to 17 w.e.f 12.8.2008.
- Earlier powers for bulk permission to POEs were very limited. This was liberalized in May, 2007. Now the DS level POEs in Delhi, Mumbai and Chennai have been delegated full powers without any limit for

granting permission, the US level POEs in Hyderabad and Trivandrum have been delegated powers upto 500 workers permissions and Section Officer level POEs in Chandigarh, Kolkata and Cochin entrusted powers upto 300 workers.

- Emigration Clearance Books (EC Books) are issued to the recruiting agents through the Offices of the Protector of Emigrants from January, 2008.
- Applications for opening of Branch office, change/shifting of office, change of Managing Director/ Managing Partner, under the Emigration Act are submitted by the recruiting agents to the respective office of the POE with complete documents/information from January, 2008.
- The existing Emigration Rules 1983 has been amended through the Emigration (Amendment) Rules, 2009 which have come into force w.e.f. 09.07.2009.

VII. PROTECTION AND WELFARE OF EMIGRANTS

Of all the emigrant workers, the housemaids and other unskilled workers

are 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) FE should deposit a security deposit of \$2500 if he recruits the worker directly.
- (c) Embassy attestation has been made mandatory in respect of all women and unskilled category workers in respect of all ECR countries;
- (d) Under the Emigration (Amendment) Rules, the recruiting agents have been entrusted with specific duties and responsibilities with a view to safeguard the interest of the emigrant worker. They will also have to maintain certain basic facilities.
- (e) Specific duties of the foreign employers have been laid down under the Rules with a view to safeguard the interests of the emigrants.

FINANCIAL SERVICES

I. INVESTING IN INDIA

Overseas Indians worldwide who are our brand ambassadors produce an economic output of about \$ 400 billion. The Indian Diaspora of 30 million is estimated to generate an annual income equal to about 30 percent of India's Gross Domestic Product. From an economic perspective, though, they are focused on remaining as savers rather than becoming investors. It is interesting, though, that so far the overseas Indians have either put their money in remittances back home or in NRE deposits. It is clear that so far, overseas Indians have been looking at India from a short-term horizon of 3-5 years. That is why, while India is the highest recipient of remittances in the world – USD 50 billion last year – the share of overseas Indians in Foreign Direct Investment has been far short of its potential. India's growth story so far has been driven primarily by the energy and enterprise of domestic companies. The role of the Indian Diaspora in India's economic growth has been much less than what it is capable of. The overseas Indian perspective on investing in India should now transform to converge with the dominant mode of investing that other foreigners have adopted. That is to invest on a longer-term basis and in the new investment opportunities arising. Conversely, industry and business in India must offer new products and projects to potential overseas Indian investors.

The Indian Diaspora spans the globe and stretches across all oceans and continents. It is so widespread that the sun never sets on the Indian Diaspora¹. Estimated at over 30 million, India has the world's second largest diaspora next to China, characterized as far more diverse when compared to the Chinese counterparts.

Non-Resident Indians (NRI) and People of Indian Origin (PIO) have transferred knowledge and expertise, added to India's foreign exchange reserves and recently have mediated the massive entrepreneurial energy that has led to the rise of India's Information Technology (IT) and IT Enabled Services (ITES) sectors.

With remittance flows estimated at around US \$ 46.9 billion and NRI deposits worth \$ 513 million, the Indian Diaspora has always played an important role in adding India's national income and wealth, thereby being actively involved in the country's development and strategic decision making. The Government has realized their significance, and is now moving ahead in the direction to tap productive investments from the overseas Indians in order to engage them as long-term partners in India's growth process.

The role of the Indian Diaspora in India's economic growth shows promise and needs to be nurtured. The Overseas Indian Facilitation Centre established by the Ministry in partnership with the

Confederation of Indian Industry provides the institutional basis for this engagement. As a not for profit trust promoted by the government but managed by the private sector, the OIFC, combines the best of both the worlds. While government's presence at arm's length brings in credibility, the enterprise of the private sector partner invests it with the flexibility and nimble footedness to respond to the needs of the overseas Indian investor on a real time basis.

The focus of the financial services division is on;

- Facilitating ease of doing business in India without adding transaction costs.
- Enabling the overseas Indian investor to benefit from the opportunities in India by facilitating appropriate advisory and hand holding services through market driven knowledge partners.
- Catalysing sustainable B-to-B partnerships between Indian and overseas Indian businesses.
- Enabling value addition to the investible knowledge, skills and expertise of overseas Indians.

II. OVERSEAS INDIAN FACILITATION CENTRE (OIFC)

Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs has set up an Overseas Indian Facilitation Center (OIFC) as a not-for-profit-trust, in partnership with Confederation of Indian Industry (CII). The Center will be a 'one stop shop' for serving 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 Centers are:

- ❖ Promote Overseas Indian investment into India and facilitate

- business partnership, by giving authentic and real time information
- ❖ Function as clearinghouse for all investment related information. This would be done by processing information on a real time basis through ICT platform
- ❖ Establish and maintain a Diaspora Knowledge Network (DKN) by creating a database of Overseas Indians, who would act as knowledge Diaspora and whose knowledge resources could be using ICT platform
- ❖ Assist States in India to project investment opportunities to overseas Indians in the infrastructure and social sectors. The objectives of the OIFC will be to bring the Indian States, Indian Business and potential Overseas Investors on the same platform and to facilitate the investors to identify the investment opportunities
- ❖ Provide a host of advisory services to PIO and NRIs. These could include matters such as consular questions, stay in India, investment and financial issues etc.

During PBD-2010 held at New Delhi, Prime Minister inaugurated an online portal developed by OIFC. The electronic portal comprise of series of online platforms such as an end-to-end information portal for updated information on sector and state specific investment opportunities and forthcoming events to invite diaspora's participation, a comprehensive networking platform for communication and group formation needs to foster collaborations, an online business directory of verified Indian and diaspora businesses, a customized query and solutions platform and an investment tool-kit to ease the process of investing into India. OIFC also organized a market place at New Delhi during PBD-2010.

One to one meetings were held with the prospective investors at the Market place. The OIFC can be reached at www.oifc.in.

III. INDIA DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION OF OVERSEAS INDIANS

India Development Foundation of Overseas Indians is a not-for-profit trust registered by the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs, Government of India to provide a credible window for Overseas Indian Philanthropy in India's Social development. The objective of the foundation is to facilitate philanthropic activities by Overseas Indians including through innovative projects and instruments such as micro credit for rural entrepreneurs, self help groups for economic empowerment of women, best practice interventions in primary education and technology interventions in rural health care delivery.

The foundation is at 'arms length' from Government and is managed by an eminent Board of Trustees. The mandate of the foundation is to lead Overseas Indians philanthropic capital into India's Social Sector by forging partnerships between donors and

credible non-government and non-profit voluntary organisations working in the Social Sector in India.

The broad objectives of the Trust will be to:

1. Lead overseas Indian philanthropy into India, facilitate partnerships through single window facilitation and by building public private partnerships.
2. Establish and maintain a 'Social Capital and Philanthropy Network' in India that can provide a list of credible institutions, projects and programmes.
3. Function as a clearinghouse for all philanthropy related information.
3. Partner with states in India and encourage credible Indian philanthropic organizations to project social development opportunities to overseas Indians in the sectors that best match national priorities including empowerment of rural women.
3. Promote accountability and 'good practices' in diaspora philanthropy.

The First meeting of the Board of Trustees of India Development Foundation of Overseas Indians was held on 4th November 2009. The Ministry is in the process of registering the India Development foundation as a non-profit organization in USA, UK, Canada, Australia, Germany and Gulf to qualify for exemption from federal income taxes. The portal for receiving online donations is also under development.

IV. GLOBAL-INDIAN NETWORK OF KNOWLEDGE (GLOBAL INK)

The Ministry has developed a Diaspora knowledge network called - Global Indian Network of Knowledge (Global INK), an electronic platform that will connect people of Indian Origin from



a variety of disciplines, recognized as leaders in their respective fields, not just in their country of residence but globally as well, with knowledge users at the national and sub-national levels in India. The network is being developed by M/s Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) on behalf of the Ministry.

The network will serve as a high level electronic platform to facilitate knowledge transfer from wherever it may be based without the overseas expert having to relocate. The network will serve as a strategic 'virtual think tank'. The outcome targeted will be the germination of ideas on development, identification of the key elements in addressing the challenges to development and articulating and mapping out solutions through innovation and technological interventions.

Global-INK will identify specific sectors and fields of activity that will broadly correspond with the development priorities set out in the eleventh five-year plan 2007-12. The focus of the knowledge transfer programme will be on social sector development and innovation (ideas to market) thus enabling India's rural/urban middle class youth to become entrepreneurs as opposed to job-seekers.

The Global INK is operational since January 1, 2010. The Global INK can be reached at www.globalink.in.

V. PRIME MINISTER'S GLOBAL ADVISORY COUNCIL OF OVERSEAS INDIANS

The Ministry has constituted the Prime Minister's Global Advisory Council of People of Indian Origin to draw upon the experience and knowledge of eminent people of Indian origin in diverse fields from across the world. The Council



will be chaired by the Prime Minister and the renowned people of Indian Origin across the world have been selected as its Members.

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 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 will be recommendatory in nature and serve as a valuable inputs for policy formulation and programme planning.

The first Council meeting on 7th January, 2010 chaired by Prime Minister was attended by eminent Overseas

Indians including: Prof. Jagdish Bhagwati, Shri. Karan F. Bilimoria, Shri Swadesh Chatterjee, Ms. Ela Gandhi, Shri Rajat K. Gupta, Lord Khalid Hameed, Dr. Renu Khator, Shri Kishore Mahbubani, Shri PNC Menon, Shri L.N. Mittal, Lord Bhiku Chotalal Parekh, Dr. Sam Pitroda, Tan Sri Dato' Ajit Singh, Mr. Neville Joseph Roach, Prof. Srinivasa SR Varadhan and Mr. Yusuffali M.A.

The Members of the Council appreciated the initiative of Prime Minister for setting up the Council, and providing a platform for overseas Indian community to share their experience and knowledge for the socio-economic development of India. Members were of the unanimous view that India and its overseas community can and should build a strong, strategic and mutually beneficial partnership. Members shared their views on various aspects such as contributing to social and philanthropic work, education and skill development, collaborating work with the academic and scientific community, developing institutions of excellence, facilitating investments into India, and initiatives for facilitating young overseas Indians to rediscover their roots.

VI. AWARENESS - CUM - PUBLICITY CAMPAIGN THROUGH MEDIA

The Ministry has launched an Awareness-cum-Publicity Campaign on the following three issues:

- i) Problems faced by emigrant workers and legal emigration process;
- ii) Problems relating to Indian housemaids overseas; and
- iii) Problem relating to NRI marriages

The awareness campaign has been necessitated by the fact that the outflow of potential Emigrants going Overseas in search of jobs has substantially

increased in the last five years. This number is expected to increase further in the coming years as demand of Indian labour is increasing. The objectives of the Awareness Campaign is to create wider awareness among the General Public about the Legal Immigration Process, cautions against illegal practices by fraudulent recruiting Agencies and to provide information to those who are facing problems.

VII. PRAVASI BHARATIYA KENDRA(PBK)

To commemorate the trials and tribulations, as well as the subsequent evolution and achievements of the diverse Indian Diaspora, the Ministry has decided to establish the Pravasi Bharatiya Kendra at New Delhi at an estimated cost of Rs. 107 Crore.

The Kendra, over a time would become the focal point for interaction – social, cultural and economic - with and between all Overseas Indians. It will also serve as a research and documentation centre and host a permanent exhibition.

The Kendra would inter-alia, including have the following facilities:

- i) Library/Research Centre
- ii) Flexible capacity Meeting Rooms
- iii) Indian Cultural Centre
- iv) State of the art Auditorium of 500 capacity
- v) Permanent Exhibition Space
- vi) Fully Serviced Guest Rooms
- vii) Full fledged Business Centre
- viii) Restaurant
- ix) Adequate basement Car Parking
- x) 100% Power Back-up

The National Building Construction Corporation (NBCC) has been appointed as Consultant and Project Manager on Turn-key basis from concept to completion i.e. planning, designing, construction, furnishing, equipping etc. The Kendra is expected to be completed by the end of 2012.

BUDGET AND FINANCIAL REVIEW

The Outcome Budget of the Ministry for the year 2009-10 was presented to the Parliament in June 2009. The Budget Estimate of the Ministry during 2009-2010 was Rs. 80 crores and the Revised Estimate was Rs. 60 crores. The detailed Budget allocation and Revised Estimates have been given in Table –E. The Budget Estimate for the year 2010-11 has been proposed at Rs.81 crores. The expenditure 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 last year was on three aspects:

- (a) to contain Administrative expenditure
- (b) increase allocations for Programmes and Schemes to achieve the mandate of the Ministry; and
- (c) to maximize the productivity of Scheme expenditure through partnerships. The trends in the expenditure is depicted in figures A, B & C.

The increase in the administrative expenditure is on account of payment 60% arrears of implementation of 6th Pay commission's recommendations.

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 is also responsible for implementation of the use of Official Language. Besides, this division also exercises vigilance oversight and handles all Vigilance cases against officials working in the Ministry. The focus of this division is to facilitate the smooth and effective operations of the Ministry.

I. OVERSEAS INDIAN CENTERS

The Government has sanctioned 3 posts of Counselor-Community Affairs (Development) in the Indian Missions at Washington, Abu Dhabi and Kuala Lumpur as field organizations of MOIA in those countries. The Counselor at Washington will look after the interests of the overseas Indian community in the USA and the one in Abu Dhabi will cover the UAE and the Counselor at Kuala Lumpur will look after Malaysia, Singapore and Brunei. The Counselors will be supported by professionals to be appointed locally to provide assistance in the fields of health, legal and financial matters. The Counselor at Washington has started functioning. He is assisted by professionals in the field of Community Development and Legal. The counselor at Abu Dhabi has also started functioning. Based on the

experience of these offices, extension of these services to other countries will be considered

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 on corruption and malpractices in the functioning of the Protectors of Emigrants Offices and the Recruiting Agents, received from the general public are dealt with in a time bound manner.

The Ministry is implementing the guidelines/instructions issued by the Department of Personnel & Training and the Central Vigilance Commission on creating greater awareness of vigilance among the users. In order to bring about awareness about vigilance and transparency in functioning of offices that have public inter-face, the Vigilance Awareness Week was celebrated from November 03-07, 2009 starting with a pledge taking on November 03.

To have a transparency through effective use of websites in discharge of regulatory enforcement, the Emigration Act and the Rules framed there under, downloadable forms, guidelines for registration etc. have been uploaded on the website. The use of Information

technology has been effectively done in the Ministry.

III. PROGRESSIVE USE OF HINDI

Official Language Section of the Ministry has the nodal responsibility for effective implementation of the Official Language Act and Rules made there under. Efforts were made to increase the use of Hindi in the Ministry during the period under report with the help of out sourcing. Provisions of Section 3(3) of the Official Language Act, 1963 were complied with fully. All papers pertaining to these provisions were issued bilingually i.e. Hindi & English. Letters received in Hindi were replied to in Hindi.

The Ministry organized the “Hindi Pakhwara” from 14 to 25 September 2009. During this period useful material was distributed to all the officers/

employees including the outsourced staff to impart basic knowledge on writing notes and preparing drafts in Hindi on routine subjects. Noting & Drafting in Hindi and Essay competitions were organized. Cash prizes and certificates were given to the successful officers/employees.

IV. RIGHT TO INFORMATION ACT (RTI)

For information under the RTI Act, 2005 citizens may approach the Public Information Officer (RTI) of Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs available 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 Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs :

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) & C. V. O.

Cases received during 2009-2010 (upto 31.01.2010):

During the financial year 2009-2010 (upto 31.01.2010), 134 applications were received, 06 applications were carried over from previous year. Out of this, 08

were transferred to other relevant authorities, 126 were disposed off and 06 are in the process of disposal. During this period, 11 appeals were received out of which 09 were disposed of and 02 are in the process of disposal

ANNEXURES & TABLES

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TABLE -C	State-wise figures of Workers Granted Emigration Clearance / ECNR Endorsement (2004-2009)
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FIGURE - B	Administrative expenditure vis-a-vis Scheme Expenditure.
FIGURE – C	Reduction in Net Budget outflow on PBD.

ANNEXURE-A

FUNCTIONS OF THE MINISTRY

1. All matters relating to Overseas Indians comprising Persons of Indian Origin (PIO) and Non-Resident Indians (NRIs) excluding entries specifically allotted to other Departments.
2. Promotion of investment by Overseas Indians in India including innovative investments and policy initiatives consistent with the overall Government policies particularly in areas such as exclusive Special Economic Zones (SEZs) for Overseas Indians.
3. To be represented in the Foreign Investment Promotion Board and the Foreign Investment Implementation Authority.
4. To interact with the Investment Commission and to be consulted by the said Commission and to be kept informed of all matters relating to Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) by Overseas Indians.
5. All emigration under the Emigration Act, 1983 (31 of 1983) from India to overseas countries and the return of emigrants.
6. Matters relating to Pravasi Bharatiya Divas, Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Awards and Pravasi Bharatiya Kendra.
7. Matters relating to programmes in India for overseas Indian Volunteers.
8. Setting up and administration of Centres for Overseas Indians' Affairs in countries having major concentration of Overseas Indians in consultation and coordination with the Ministry of External Affairs.
9. Policy regarding employment assistance to PIO/NRIs excluding reservations in Government service.
10. Collection and dissemination of information concerning admission of NRI/PIO students to various educational, technical and cultural institutions in India wherever discretionary quota for NRI/PIO students exists, in consultation with the Ministry of Human Resource Development and the Ministry of Culture.
11. Scholarship to NRI/PIO students for study in India under different schemes in consultation with the Ministry of External Affairs.
12. Development of marketing and communication strategies to ensure strong links between the Overseas Indian community and India.
13. Matters relating to NRI/PIO contributions to the Government and parental organisations in consultation with the Department of Economic Affairs.
14. Guidance to and Cooperation with the State Governments and coordination with them on matters related to Overseas Indians.
15. To be represented in the Indian Council of Cultural Relations.
16. Establishment of institutions to impart vocational and technical training to meet the requirements of skilled manpower abroad with the concurrence of the Ministry of Labour and Employment.
17. External Publicity relating to Overseas Indians' affairs in consultation with the Ministry of External Affairs and in consonance with foreign policy objectives.
18. New initiatives for interaction by Overseas Indians with India in the fields such as Trade, Culture, Tourism, Media, Youth Affairs, Health, Education, Science and Technology in consultation with concerned Ministries.
19. Exercise of powers conferred by the section 7B(1) of the Citizenship Act, 1955 (57 of 1955).
20. Work relating to totalization agreements, protection and welfare of overseas Indians and exemption from payment of Social security.

ANNEXURE-B

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

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 degrees 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 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 the visas of UK, USA and Australia.
9. Persons possessing two years' diploma from any institute recognized by the national Council for Vocational Training (NCVT) or State Council of Vocational Training (SCVT) or persons holding three years' diploma / equivalent degree from institutions like Polytechnics recognized by Central/State Governments.
10. Nurses possessing qualification recognized 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 spouses.
13. Children below 18 years of age.

ANNEXURE-C

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

1. Albania		Republic of	92. Madagascar	136. Sao Tome
2. Algeria		Congo	93. Malawi	and Principe
3. Andorra	46. Denmark		94. Maldives	137. Senegal
4. Angola	47. Djibouti		95. Mali	138. Serbia
5. Antigua & Barduda	48. Dominica		96. Malta	139. Seychelles
6. Argentina	49. Dominican Republic		97. Marshall Islands	140. Sierra Leone
7. Armenia	50. Ecuador		98. Mauritania	141. Singapore
8. Australia	51. Egypt		99. Mauritius	142. Slovakia
9. Austria	52. El Salvador		100. Mexico	143. Slovenia
10. Azerbaijan	53. Equatorial Guinea		101. Micronesia	144. Solomon Islands
11. Bahamas	54. Eritrea		102. Moldova	145. Somalia
12. Bangladesh	55. Estonia		103. Monaco	146. South Africa
13. Barbados	56. Ethiopia		104. Mongolia	147. Spain
14. Belarus	57. Fiji		105. Montenegro	148. Sri Lanka
15. Belgium	58. Finland		106. Morocco	149. Suriname
16. Belize	59. France		107. Mozambique	150. Swaziland
17. Benin	60. Gabon		108. Myanmar	151. Sweden
18. Bhutan	61. Gambia		109. Namibia	152. Switzerland
19. Bolivia	62. Georgia		110. Nauru	153. Tajikistan
20. Bosnia & Harzegovina	63. Germany		111. Nepal	154. The former Yugoslav Rep of Macedonia
21. Botswana	64. Ghana		112. Netherlands	
22. Brazil	65. Greece		113. New Zealand	155. Timor-Leste
23. Brunei	66. Grenada		114. Nicaragua	156. Tonga
24. Bulgaria	67. Guatemala		115. Niger	158. Trinidad & Tobago
25. Burkina Faso	68. Guinea		116. Nigeria	
26. Burundi	69. Guinea-Bisau		117. Norway	159. Tunisia
27. Cambodia	70. Guyana		118. Pakistan	160. Turkey
28. Cameroon	71. Haiti		119. Palau	161. Turkmenistan
29. Canada	72. Honduras		120. Panama	162. Tuvalu
30. Cape Verde	73. Hungary		121. Papua New Guinea	163. Uganda
31. Central African Republic	74. Iceland		122. Paraguay	164. Ukraine
32. Chad	75. Iran		123. Peru	165. United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Island
33. Chile	76. Ireland		124. Philippines	
34. China	77. Israel		125. Poland	
35. Colombia	78. Italy		126. Portugal	
36. Comoros	79. Jamaica		127. Rep of Korea	166. United Republic of Tanzania
37. Congo	80. Japan		128. Romania	
38. Costa Rica	81. Kazakhstan		129. Russian Federation	167. USA
39. Cote d'Ivoire	82. Kenya		130. Rwanda	168. Uruguay
40. Croatia	83. Kiribati		131. Saint Kitts and Nevis	169. Uzbekistan
41. Cuba	84. Kyrgystan		132. Saint Lucia	170. Vanuatu
42. Cyprus	85. Laos.PDR		133. St Vincent and the Grenadines	171. Venezuela
43. Czech Republic	86. Latvia		134. Samoa	172. Vietnam
44. DPR Korea	87. Lesotho		135. San Marino	173. Zambia
45. Democratic	88. Liberia			174. Zimbabwe
	89. Liechtenstein			175. Vatican
	90. Lithuania			
	91. Luxemburg			

ANEXURE-D

OFFICES OF THE PROTECTORS OF EMIGRANTS

- 1 The Protector of Emigrants,**
Jaisalmer House, Canteen Block,
Mansingh Road, New Delhi-110011
Ph. 011-23382472, 23073908
Fax: 011-23382472
- 2 The Protector of Emigrants,**
Building E, Khira Nagar, SV Road,
Santa Cruz(West), Mumbai-
400039,
Ph. 022-26614393
Fax: 022-26614353/26614393
- 3 The Protector of Emigrants,**
TNHB, Ashok Nagar,
Shopping -Complex (Annexe),
Chennai-600083,
Ph. 044-24891337
Fax: 044-24891337
- 4 The Protector of Emigrants,**
Suganthi, 24/846(1), Thycad,
THIRUVANANTHA PURAM –
695014,
Ph. 0471-2324835
Fax: 0471-2324835
- 5 The Office of the Protector of Emigrants,**
3rd Floor, Putherickal Building,
Market Road, Cochin-682035
- 6 The Protector of Emigrants,**
Griha Kalpa Complex, Ground
Floor, M.J. Road
Opposite to Gandhi Bhawan,
Nampally,
HYDERABAD, Ph. 040-24652557,
Fax: 040-24652557
- 7 Office of the Protector of Emigrants,**
5th Block, Ground Floor, Kendriya
Sadan,
Sector-9A, CHANDIGARH-160017,
Ph. 0172-2741790
Fax: 0172-2741790
- 8 The Protector of Emigrants,**
Room No. 18, 'A'-Wing,
MSO Building, 3rd Floor DF Block,
Salt Lake, KOLKATTA-700084,
Ph.033-23343407
Fax: 033-23343407

ANNEXURE - E

**LIST OF INDIAN WOMEN'S ORGANIZATIONS/ INDIAN COMMUNITY ASSOCIATIONS /
NGOS EMPANELLED WITH THE INDIAN MISSIONS AND POSTS ABROAD TO PROVIDE
LEGAL / FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO INDIAN WOMEN DESERTED BY THEIR
OVERSEAS INDIAN SPOUSES.**

Sl.No.	Indian Mission	Indian Women's Association / NGOs empanelled with the Indian Missions
1.	Embassy of India, Washington DC,.	ASHA (Asian Women's Self -help Association) , Post Box 2084, Rockville, MD 20847-2084
2.	Consulate General of India, San Francisco	(i) MAIRI, 234 , East Gish Road, Suite200, San Jose, CA 95112 (ii) NARIKA Post Box NO. 14014, Berkeley, CA 94714 (iii) SevA Legal Aid37053 Cherry Street # 207 Newark, CA 94560
3.	Consulate General of India, New York,	(i) SAKHI, New York (ii) AWAKE, (Asian Women's Alliance for Kinship and Equality) (iii) MANAVI, New Jersey (iv) SERVICE AND EDUCATION FOR WOMEN AGAINST ABUSE (SEVAA) Philadelphia (v) INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE OFBUFFALO (vi) Asian Women's Safety Net (vii) Sneha Inc; Post Box No. 271650, West Hartford ,CT-06127
4.	Consulate General of India, Chicago.	APNA GHAR INC (OUR HOME), Chicago
5.	Consulate General of India, Houston	Daya Inc., 5890 Point West Dr, Houston TX77036
6.	Embassy of India , Qatar	Indian Community Benevolent Fund(ICBF) , Doha, Qatar
7.	High Commission of India, Canberra, Australia	The Indian Welfare & Resources Centre (IWRC), the Welfare wing of Federation of Indian Association of Victoria, Melbourne .
8.	Consulate General of India, Sydney.	United Indian Association Inc; Post Box 575, Strathfield, NSW 2135, Australia
9.	High Commission of India, Ottawa Canada	(i) Indian Canada Association1301 Prestone Drive, Ottawa, ON K1E, 2Z2 (ii) Ottawa Community Immigrant Services Organization , 959 Wellington Street West, Ottawa, ON K1Y 2X5. (iii) National Association of Canadians of Indian Origin, 24 Saint-Paul East, Suite201. Montreal, QC H2Y 1G3. (iv) AWIC Community & Social Services 3030 Don Mills Road, Peanut Plaza ,North York, ON M2J 3C1.
10.	High Commission of India, New Zealand	Shakti Community Council INC, Auckland

TABLE – A

**EMIGRATION FOR EMPLOYMENT DURING
THE LAST SIX YEARS**

Year	No. of workers (in lakhs)
2004	4.75
2005	5.49
2006	6.77
2007	8.09
2008	8.49
2009	6.10

TABLE – B

**THE DISTRIBUTION OF ANNUAL LABOUR OUTFLOWS FROM
INDIA BY DESTINATION
2004-2009**

S.N.	Country	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
1	Afghanistan	0	0	0	0	405	395
2	Bahrain	22980	30060	37688	29966	31924	17541
3	Brunei	0	0	0	0	607	2
4	Indonesia	0	0	0	0	33	9
5	Jordan	2576	1851	1485	1254	1377	847
6	Kuwait	52064	39124	47449	48467	35562	42091
7	Lebanon	0	0	0	0	75	250
8	Libya	—	—	—	3223	5040	3991
9	Malaysia	31464	71041	36500	30916	21123	11345
10	Maldives	3233	3423	4671	ECNR	ECNR	ECNR
11	Mauritius	3544	1965	1795	ECNR	ECNR	ECNR
12	Oman	33275	40931	67992	95462	89659	74963
13	Qatar	16325	50222	76324	88483	82937	46292
14	S. Arabia	123522	99879	134059	195437	228406	281110
15	Sudan	0	0	0	0	1045	708
16	Syria	0	0	0	0	74	0
17	Thailand	0	0	0	0	15	5
18	U. A. E.	175262	194412	254774	312695	349827	130302
19	Yemen	0	0	0	0	492	421
20	Others	10715	15945	14175	3550	0	0
TOTAL		474960	548853	676912	809453	848601	610272

TABLE - C

STATE-WISE FIGURES OF WORKERS GRANTED EMIGRATION CLEARANCE/ECNR ENDORSEMENT DURING THE YEARS 2004-2009

SN	State	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
1.	A&N Islands	29	5	190	87	89	75
2.	Andhra Pradesh	72,580	48,498	97,680	105044	97530	69233
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	73	0	0	25	244	181
4.	Assam	2,695	669	1,075	1905	1517	1788
5.	Bihar	21,812	9,366	36,493	51805	60642	50227
6.	Chandigarh	2,405	807	6,616	9177	1768	966
7.	Chhattisgarh	580	0	4735	310	80	51
8.	D & Diu	0	0	0	0	27	8
9.	Delhi	6,052	6,024	9098	5327	4512	2501
10.	DNH/UT	0	0	11	12	17	3
11.	Goa	7,053	1,627	4,063	3102	2210	1659
12.	Gujarat	22,218	49,923	13,274	20066	15716	9185
13.	Haryana	1,267	2,313	193	1852	1779	1052
14.	Himachal Pradesh	1,506	762	1,180	1119	1345	776
15.	Jammu & Kashmir	1,944	486	1,661	3276	3588	4307
16.	Jharkhand	919	974	1,427	3651	3561	3545
17.	Karnataka	19,237	75,384	24,362	27014	22413	18565
18.	Kerala	63,512	1,25,075	1,20,083	150475	180703	119384

SN	State	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
19.	Lakshdeep	0	0	0	0	23	19
20.	Madhya Pradesh	8,888	5,312	7047	3616	2321	1897
21.	Maharashtra	28,670	29,289	15,356	21496	24786	19128
22.	Manipur	29	0	0	1	30	18
23.	Meghalaya	0	0	0	7	24	21
24.	Mizoram	38	0	0	-	8	2
25.	Nagaland	46	0	0	7	10	5
26.	Orissa	6,999	1,258	4,114	6696	8919	6551
27.	Pondichery	560	222	2	45	397	320
28.	Port Blair	0	0	1	2	0	
29.	Punjab	25,302	24,088	39,311	53942	54469	27291
30.	Rajasthan	35,108	21,899	50,236	70896	64601	44744
31.	Sikkim	0	0	10	2	18	12
32.	Tamil Nadu	1,08,964	1,17,050	1,55,631	150842	128791	78841
33.	Tripura	2	1	1	121	592	324
34.	Uttar Pradesh	27,428	22,558	66,131	91613	139254	125783
35.	Uttarakhand	58	137	93	179	523	623
36.	West Bengal	8,986	5,102	14,929	24817	26094	21187
37.	Others	0	24	1909	924	0	
	Total	4,74.960	5,48,853	676912	809453	848601	610272

TABLE - D

PRIVATE REMITTANCES FROM 2001-02 TO 2008-09

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

*Source: RBI Monthly
Bulletin-January, 2010

TABLE - E

**OBJECT HEAD WISE SUMMARY OF NON-PLAN ESTIMATES
VIS-a-VIS EXPENDITURE
(Rs. in Crores)**

Sl. No.	Object Head	BE 2009-10	RE 2009-10
1	2	3	4
	Revenue Section		
2052-	Secretariat- General Services (Major Head)		
0.090	Secretariat (Minor Head)		
34	Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs		
34.01.01	Salaries	4.30	4.93
34.01.02	Wages	0.003	0.003
34.01.03	Overtime Allowance	0.028	0.027
34.01.06	Medical Treatment	0.07	0.13
34.01.11	Domestic Travel Expenses	1.00	0.90
34.01.12	Foreign Travel Expenses	1.49	1.34
34.01.13	Office Expenses	1.70	1.53
34.01.14	Rents, Rates, Taxes	2.05	2.05
34.01.16	Publications	0.18	0.16
34.01.17	Banking Cash Transaction Tax	0	0
34.01.26	Advertising and Publicity	1.45	1.31
34.01.27	Minor Works	0.30	0.30
34.01.28	Professional Services	0.56	0.51
99	Information Technology Office		
34.99.13	Expenses	2.03	1.40
	Total Secretariat	15.16	14.59

Sl. No.	Object Head	BE 2009-10	RE 2009-10
1	2	3	4
40	Protector General of Emigrant		
40.01.01	Salaries	2.70	2.70
40.01.02	Wages	0.02	0.02
40.01.03	Overtime Allowance	0	0
40.01.06	Medical Treatment	0.08	0.08
40.01.11	Domestic Travel Expenses	0.06	0.054
40.01.12	Foreign Travel Expenses	0	0
40.01.13	Office Expenses	0.30	0.27
40.01.14	Rents, Rates, Taxes	1.01	1.01
40.01.16	Publications	0	0
40.01.26	Advertising and Publicity	0	0
40.01.27	Minor Works	0.01	0.01
40.01.28	Professional Services	0.35	0.96
99 40.99.13	Information Technology Office Expenses	1.00	0.96
	Total Protector General of Emigrant	5.53	5.20
00.800 07	Other Expenditure (Minor Head)		
07.00.20	Expenditure on Holding Seminars & Studies Other Administrative Expenses Total-Other Expenditure	0.31	0.28
	TOTAL -SECRETARIAT GENERAL SERVICES	21.00	20.07
2061	EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (MAJOR HEAD)		
0.14 01	International Conferences / Meetings (Minor Head)		
01.00.20	International Conferences/ Meetings Other Administrative Expenses	1.00	0.90
0.106 01	Entertainment Charges (Minor Head) Entertainment of Dignitaries Other Administrative Expenses	0.30	0.10
	Total - International Conferences/Meetings	1.30	1.00

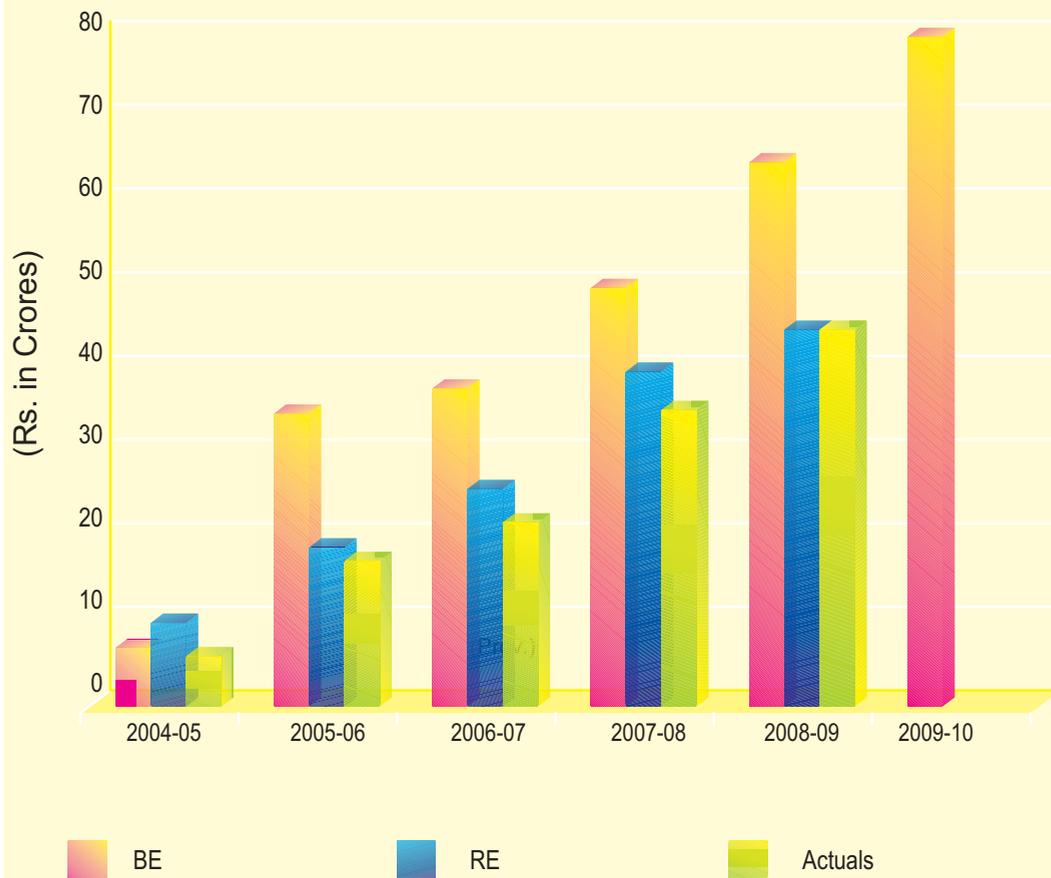
Sl. No.	Object Head	BE 2009-10	RE 2009-10
1	2	3	4
0.800 03 03.03.50	Other Expenditure (Minor Head) Other Schemes Other Charges	30.70	30.70
15.00 15.00.50	Celebration of Pravasi Bharatiya Divas Other Charges	6.00	6.00
	Total-Other Expenditure	36.70	36.70
	Total External Affairs (Major Head)	38.00	37.70
	Total-Revenue Section	59.00	57.77
4059 60 60.051 23	Capital Outlay on Public Works: (Major Head) Other Buildings (Sub Major Head) Construction (Minor Head) Pravasi Bharatiya Kendra	20.00	2.00
23.00.53	Major Works		
24 24.00.53	Construction/Purchase of Buildings for PGE/POEs	1.00	0.23
	Total Capital Outlay on Public Works	21.00	2.23
	Total Capital Section	21.00	2.23
	Total-Grant No. 68	80.00	60.00



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Figure-A

ESTIMATES AND EXPENDITURE

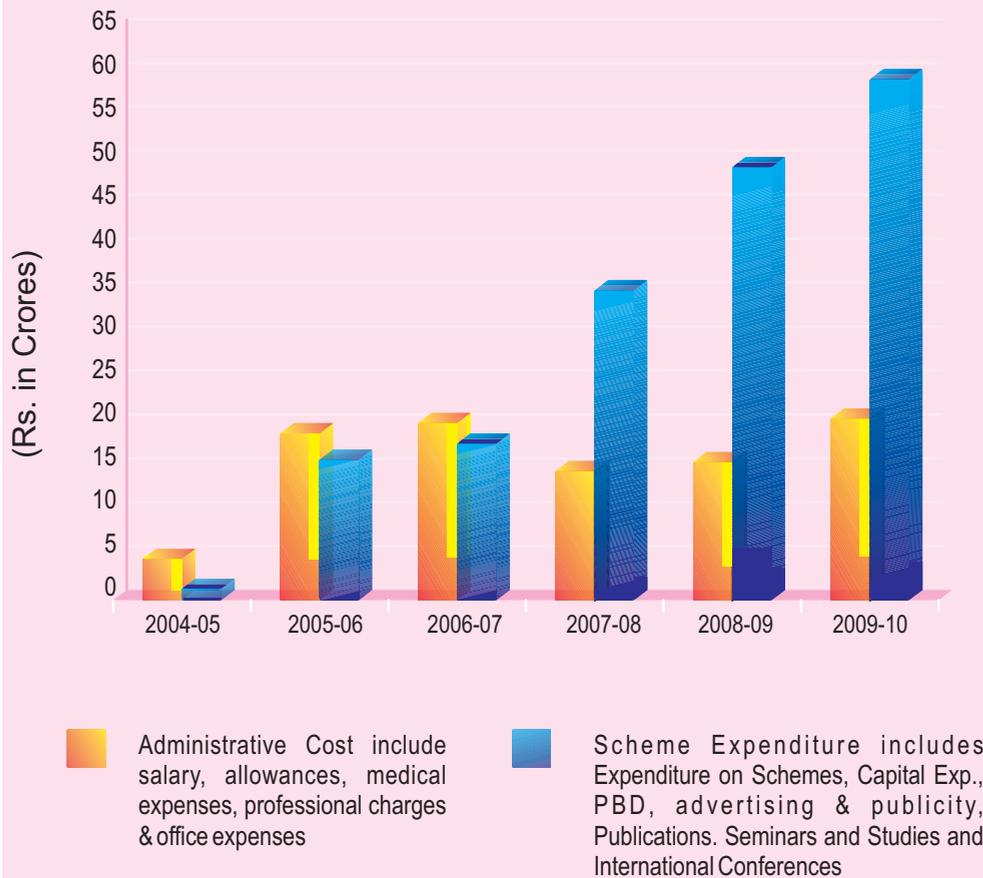




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Figure-B

ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENDITURE*
VIA-A-VIS SCHEME EXPENDITURE IN THE YEAR
[^2009-10 - ESTIMATE]

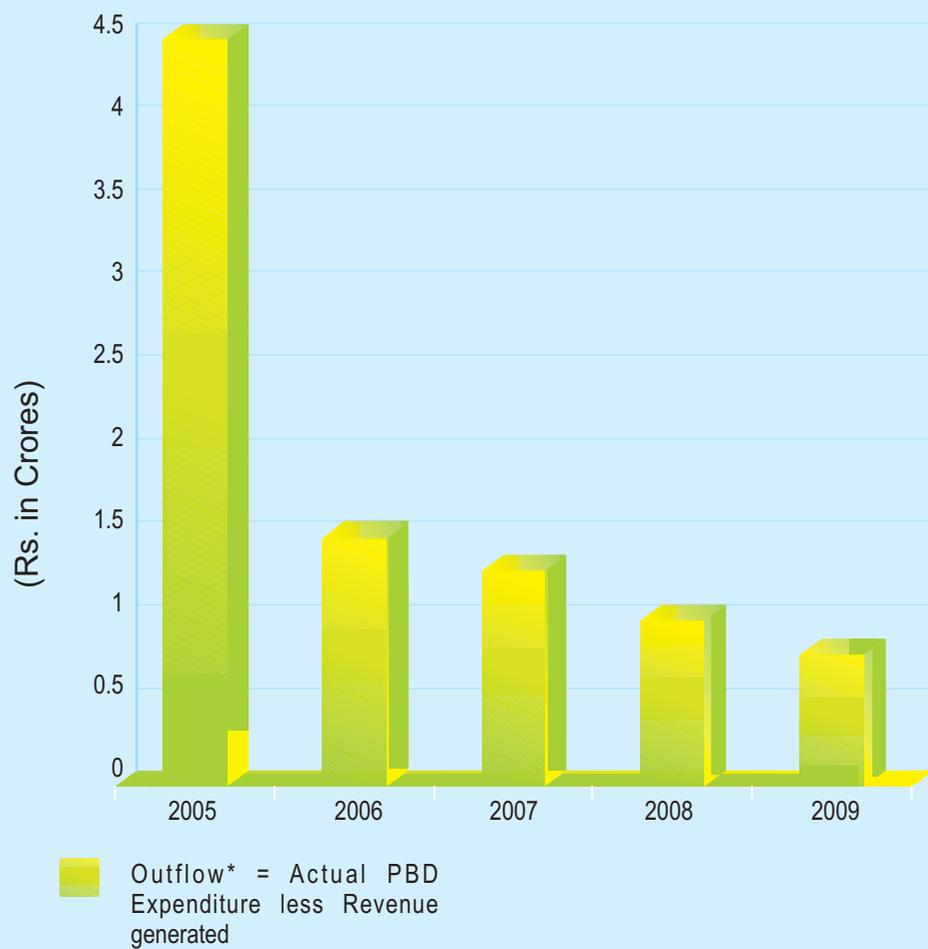




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Figure-C

REDUCTION IN NET BUDGET OUTFLOW* ON PBD





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