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Message



The Overseas Pakistanis have been a wonderful asset for the country. The remittances by Overseas Pakistanis are the largest source of foreign exchange earnings. I believe Overseas workers get the respect, benefits and greater acknowledgment which they deserve. The Prime Minister has put special emphasis on the improvement of working conditions of Overseas Pakistanis. The launching of Newsletter by the Ministry is a commendable step to enhance the connectivity between the Government and the people of Pakistan.

Sayed Zulfiqar Abbas Bukhari
Special Assistant to the Prime Minister

Foreword



The Ministry of Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resource Development has the mandate of planning and coordinating manpower development and employment promotion for intending overseas workers and resident workforce. The purpose of publishing this highlight the achievements of the Ministry. The social platforms always work to improve and enhance connectivity.

I am confident that this endeavour will serve the objectives in accordance with the mandate of this Ministry.

Pervaiz Ahmed Junejo
Federal Secretary



108th Session of the International Labour Conference (ILC), Geneva

108th Session was held in Geneva from 10th-21st June, 2019. Agenda of the Conference included:-

- ◆ ILO Centenary outcome document
- ◆ Violence and harassment in the world of work (standard-setting, second discussion)
- ◆ Thematic debates and events connected to Future of Work, including various Centenary Initiatives.

Syed Zulfiqar Abbas Bukhari, Special Assistant to the Prime Minister on Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resource Development (OPHRD) led the Pakistani delegation. The SAPM delivered his statement on 12th June in the Plenary session. In his statement, SAPM highlighted Pakistan's deep association with ILO since the inception of the country

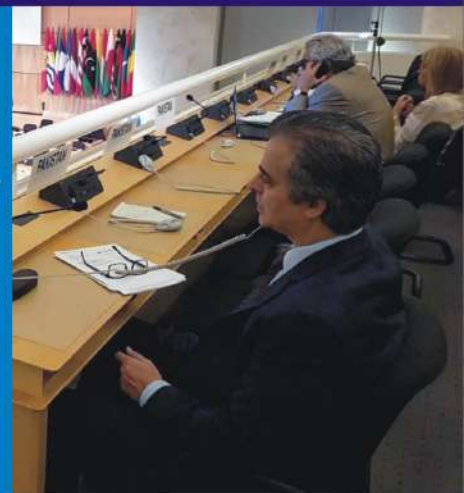


He appreciated useful recommendations of the Global Commission on the Future of Work. The SAPM suggested that ILO should consider a new social contract for developing countries so that they may have localized and regional solutions for their problems.

108th Session (Major Events)

- ◆ ILO Centenary Declaration for the Future of Work
- ◆ SAPM's meeting with Saudi Minister for Labour and Social Development
- ◆ Meeting with Minister for Administrative Development, Labour and Social Welfare, Qatar
- ◆ Agreement on Recruitment of workers with United Arab Emirates
- ◆ Meeting of Non-Alligned Ministers / Delegates at ILC
- ◆ Adoption of Convention against Harassment of Women at Workplace
- ◆ Meeting on accidents in mines with workers' IndustriAll Global Union

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Future of Work (FoW)

A National consultation on the Future of Work (FoW) was convened by the Ministry on 23rd May, 2019 in ILO Office, Pakistan. It was a follow up to the recommendations of the National Dialogue on Future of Work and to share the recommendations of the Commission's report and discuss the relevance to the Pakistan context. The consultation was attended by representatives of Provincial Labour departments, social security institutions, employers' and employees organizations and civil society. The participants were of the view that there is need to make arrangements for ensuring:



- Full implementation of the ILO Conventions ratified by Pakistan;
- Engagements of all stakeholders;
- implementing of Future of Work;
- People centric policy interventions;
- Enhancement of social protection coverage and strengthening the legal environment;
- Innovative approaches for promotion of national self-sustained economy;
- Consolidation and uniformity of labour laws after the 18th amendment.

MOU Signed with UAE

A Memorandum of Understanding in the field of manpower was signed with United Arab Emirates on 14-06-2019 with a view to enhance the existing friendly relations between the two countries. The signing of this MoU will go a long way in facilitating migrant workers in UAE.



Issuance of OEP Licences

During the last five month i.e. from 1st January to 31st May 2019, Ministry of Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resource Development has issued 49 Overseas Employment Promoters Licences (OEPLs) to increase the export of manpower.



Achievements of the Ministry

◆ Naya Pakistan Calling

- The Ministry has established a database of prominent Overseas Pakistanis to be used for utilizing the services of prominent Overseas Pakistanis for organizations in Pakistan.

◆ Call Sarzameen

- Ministry of OP&HRD has taken an initiative for facilitation of the Overseas Pakistanis by creating onestop complaint management system i.e Call Sarzameen Web Portal.
- The portal ensures efficient and speedy redressal of Overseas Pakistanis' complaints
- Since its establishment, 2777 complaints have been received out of which 1524 were resolved while the rest are in the process of resolution.

◆ E-Governance

- The E-Office Application System has been adopted by the Ministry and its Attached Departments
- We have successfully achieved level-IV of NITB Standards.

◆ Biometric Verification

- Bureau of Emigration & Overseas Employment has implemented a project viz "Registration of Intending Emigrants via Biometric Verification System" linked with NADRA in the seven Protectorate offices.
- Details of the intending emigrants going aboard are being verified to increase transparency.
- More than 273,000 emigrants have been biometrically verified by ensuring realtime connectivity with NADRA & FIA.

◆ Increase in EOBI Pensions

- The pensions of Employees' Old-Age Benefits Institution (EOBI) registered workers have been increased by 20% to provide relief to the workers.

◆ One Window Facilitation Desks

- To facilitate intending emigrants, one window desk at Protectorate of Emigrants Offices have been established for fee deposit/remittances in coordination with National Bank of Pakistan.
- One window fee collection at more than 35 branches of NBP has also started.

◆ Revamping of Facilitation Desks

- OPF has revamped facilitation desks at International Airports to improve services for Overseas Pakistanis.

◆ Web Portal of OEC

- Overseas Employment Corporation (OEC) has developed interactive web portal and created linkages of all stakeholders i.e jobs seekers, employers and skill development institutions.

◆ Online Database of Workers' Claims

- A database has been developed for workers' claims i.e. Scholarships, Death and Marriage Grants in WWF

◆ International Job Market Analysis

- A research analysis cell has been established in OEC to analyze market trends of more than 10 major manpower importing countries.

MOU Signed with the Sultanate of Oman

A Memorandum of Understanding was signed with Sultanate of Oman on 31st January with the aim to enhance the existing friendly relations between the two countries through cooperation in the field of labour and training. The areas of cooperation under this MoU include exchange of programs for promotion of employment and integration of the youth in the labour market. It also includes encouragement of self employment and individual initiatives through exchange of information to prevent illegal recruitment of manpower and human trafficking.



Cooperation with the State of Qatar

The State of Qatar has selected Pakistan to be one of the eight counties for establishment of Qatar Visa Centers to facilitate expatriates to complete Qatar Residency Permits in Pakistan. The project covers procedures including fingerprinting, biometric data processing, medical examination and signing work contracts of emigrants in Pakistan to enable them to start jobs immediately after arrival in Qatar. Moreover, migration cost incurred on services will be borne by the employers. Qatar Visa Center at Islamabad and Karachi have started operations.



Inauguration of
Qatar Visa Center
Islamabad

Task Force on Overseas Employment

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The Economic Coordination Committee (ECC) of the Cabinet has constituted a Task Force on Overseas Employment and Welfare of Overseas Pakistanis. The Task Force will further facilitate employment promotion in addition to improved services for Overseas Pakistanis.





Awareness Campaign

Bureau of Emigrations & Overseas Employment (BE&OE) has started an awareness campaign to educate the intending emigrants through print, electronic and social media.

It includes the following:

- i). Awareness through Radio
- ii). Updated information on BE&OE website and Facebook page.
- iii) Short Message Service (SMS); sending 3 million SMS/Month through cellular companies
- iv) Country specific printed flyers
- v) Short awareness video being imbedded in the cell phones of emigrants.



Action Against Fake Advertisements

Bureau of Emigration & Overseas Employment (BE&OE) is taking strict action against fake advertisement published in the newspapers. Furthermore, action is also taken against Overseas Employment Promoters who violate the laws.



Green Pakistan Drive

Secretary, M/o OP&HRD has participated in country wide 10 billion tree plantation drive



MoU Signed between OEC & NAVTTC

An MoU has been Signed between Overseas Employment Corporation (OEC) and National Vocational and Technical Training Commission (NAVTTC) on 26-04-2019 for sharing of data. It will enable OEC to perform job / skill matching activities.



Visits of Foreign Delegates



The Ambassador of South Korea to Pakistan, H.E Kwak Sung-Kyu called on Special Assistant to the Prime Minister Syed Zulfiqar Abbas Bukhari to discuss issues of mutual interests. The quota of Pakistani workers in South Korea has been increased by 11% as a result of the efforts of the Government. Further diversification of the fields of employment also came under discussion during the meeting.



A delegation of the representatives of British Embassy Islamabad along with the officials of British Airways called on Syed Zulfiqar Abbas Bukhari, Special Assistant to Prime Minister on Overseas Pakistanis & Human Resource Development to discuss the issues of mutual interest. The British Airways started its flight operation on 3rd June, 2019 after a long gap.

Recruitment for South Korea

The Government of Pakistan has signed an Agreement with the Government of South Korea for exporting manpower to South Korea. Every Year, hundreds of workers are recruited for South Korea. This process is implemented in collaboration with the South Korean representatives and M/o OP&HRD. Overseas Employment Corporation (OEC) provided training to potential emigrants to improve the prospects for Pakistani workforce.





Workshop on "Basic First Aid & Fire Safety"

On 2nd & 3rd July, 2019, a two-days workshop on the topic of "Basic Life Support and Safety" was arranged in coordination with Punjab Emergency Services. Three trainers conducted the workshop and the Administrative Wing coordinated the event. Sixteen officials of the Ministry participated in the workshop. During the workshop, participants were given basic training to cope with the emergencies in the offices or elsewhere and to safeguard themselves, evacuate safely in case of fire or emergency etc. The activity was appreciated by the participants.



Cooperation with Japan

The Government of Japan is introducing a new policy on Economic and Fiscal Management Reform which is expected to create around 0.5 million employment opportunities for foreign workers by 2025 in sectors such as construction, agriculture, lodging, nursing care, ship-building and manufacturing. The Government of Pakistan is making concerted efforts to benefit from this opportunity.

