

**Regarding need to strengthen bilateral agreements to ensure protection of migrant workers abroad-Laid**

**SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY (SARAN):** I draw attention to the hardships faced by migrant workers from Bihar, especially in the Middle East with latest reports indicating that workers from Bihar and Uttar Pradesh continue to migrate to Gulf countries in large numbers. Between 2012 and mid-2018, over 24,570 Indian workers died in Gulf nations—an average of 10 deaths per day. For every US \$ 1 billion remitted to India, at least 117 workers lost their lives. Bureaucratic delays often leave bodies unclaimed, causing immense suffering. Even within India, Bihari migrants face discrimination and exploitation, with 40% of Bihar's workforce migrating for work. I urge the Government to create a welfare fund for families of deceased workers and strengthen bilateral agreements to ensure worker's protection abroad. Our workers deserve dignity and protection. Immediate action is needed.