International Relations · GS - II

Examine the role of the Indian government in protecting migrant workers facing legal and employment-related difficulties abroad. Suggest measures to strengthen their welfare and access to justice.

EXAM YEAR	PAPER	SUBJECT
DAILY PRACTICE 29/10/2026	GS - II	International Relations

MARKS	WORD LIMIT
10	~150 words

Answer Hint

Consular assistance; migrant worker protection; legal aid; bilateral cooperation; safe migration; grievance redressal

Model Answer

Introduction

Millions of Indians work overseas and contribute to India's economy through remittances and international engagement. However, employment disputes, recruitment fraud and unfamiliar legal systems can expose migrant workers to serious difficulties.

Challenges Faced by Migrant Workers

Workers may face language barriers, high legal costs, contractual disputes and limited awareness of local laws. Leaving employment without fulfilling applicable contractual or legal requirements may also result in proceedings under the host country's law.

Role of the Indian Government

Indian embassies and consulates can provide consular guidance, facilitate communication with local authorities, maintain lists of local lawyers and assist with repatriation where appropriate. The Ministry of External Affairs can

also coordinate with host-country authorities and provide access to relevant migrant-welfare mechanisms.

Way Forward

India should strengthen pre-departure orientation, regulate recruitment agents, expand accessible legal assistance and improve emergency grievance systems. Bilateral labour agreements should promote fair recruitment, timely wage payments and effective dispute resolution.

Conclusion

Protecting overseas workers requires coordination between diplomatic missions, recruitment regulators and host-country authorities. Timely assistance, legal awareness and safer recruitment practices can reduce exploitation while respecting the laws of the host country.

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