The Secretary,
Ministry of Telecommunication, Foreign Employment and Sports,
No.34, Narahenpita Road,
Nawala.

GFMD Dialogue on GCM Implementation – Call for Voluntary Sharing of Initiative, Experiences and Lessons Learned

This refers to the letter No EA/IOM/GCM dated 09.11.2019 of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on the above subject.

Accordingly, the inputs of the SLBFE are given in the attachment.

D.D.P. Senanayake
Additional General Manager (Corporate Affairs)
Sri Lanka Bureau of Foreign Employment
• **Island wide media Campaign**

The Government of Sri Lanka has launched an island wide media Campaign at a cost of USD 319,000 for the purpose of awareness raising amongst the existing and prospective migrant workers and their families left behind on welfare measures and other services offered by the government while educating and promoting them to follow legal channels for employment abroad respecting local and international laws.

Besides, a popularization of a short code (1989) which is operated around the clock providing accessibility to the foreign employment related information is also in progress under this island wide media campaign.

This campaign is making use of printed and electronic media in addition to island wide truck promotion campaigns.

Media Coverage under this programme which is for a period of one year.

1. 59955 seconds of TV time in 10 local TV channels
2. 8852 seconds of air time in 10 local radio channels
3. 47 spots in 07 newspapers

• **Amendments to Sri Lanka Bureau of Foreign Employment Act No 21 of 1985**

The proposals of amendments to the SLBFE Act have been referred to the Legal Draftsman Department of Sri Lanka and those amendments have been proposed to ensure safe, orderly and regular migration in par with recent developments of migration for employment abroad. Necessary amendments have also been proposed to regularize the intermediaries in the recruitment process.

• **Pension Scheme for Migrant workers**

The preparation of draft act is currently in progress.

• **Reintegration programmes for returnees**

Financial assistance and guidance are given for returnees to start self employment projects and also to expand such projects.

Besides, the returnees are facilitated to secure employment opportunities in the private sector in Sri Lanka.
• **Counseling Services to returnees**
  Arrangements are being made to provide counseling services to needy returnees at the Welfare Assistance Center “Sahana Piyasa”.

• **Grading of Licensed Foreign Employment Agencies in Sri Lanka**
  A scheme for grading of Licensed Foreign Employment Agencies in Sri Lanka has been approved by the Board of Management of the SLBFE for implementation. The purpose of the grading system is to enhance the professionalism in the industry.

• **Host country Insurance Schemes**
  Host country insurance schemes are in operation for Kuwait, Qatar, UAE, and Jordan for the benefits of domestic sector workers. The premium for those insurance schemes is paid by the employer.