

SECTION VI

Overseas Employment Promoters (OEPs)

An Overseas Employment Promoter (OEP) gets a license under section 12 of the Emigration Ordinance 1979. These OEP's are playing a pivotal role to increase the overseas employment in the country. The OEP license empowers them to make contracts with renowned employers of different countries especially Gulf countries to get manpower demand for Pakistani workers.

At present, more than 2195 active OEP's are working across the country. The protector/city wise detail of OEP's is as under:

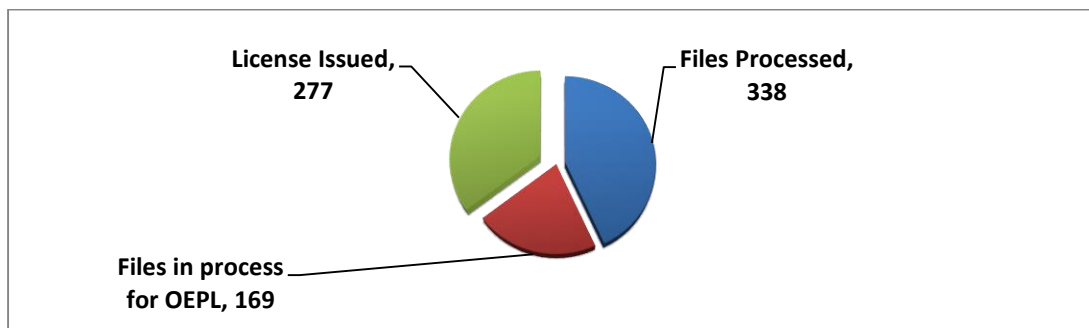
Table :

Protectorate Offices	Total Valid Licences	%
Rawalpindi	772	35.2
Lahore	438	20.0
Karachi	351	16.0
Peshawar	225	10.3
Malakand	216	9.8
Multan	189	8.6
Quetta	4	0.2
Active Licenses	2,195	100

The table above indicates that the majority of the OEP's (772) are operating in Rawalpindi region followed by 438 in Lahore and 351 in Karachi. In Quetta only 4 OEPs are working which is very low as compared to other regions of the country. The above data illustrates that majority of the OEP's 772 and 438 are operating in Rawalpindi and Lahore followed by Karachi where 351 OEP's are working. About 55 % of the OEPs are registered only in Rawalpindi and Lahore. Moreover, a significant number of OEPs are actively working in Peshawar and Malakand regions. The presence of large number of OEPs in these areas clearly reflects the priority of people of these regions to go abroad for employment. The possible factor of people of Northern areas to go abroad is the small landholdings and weak industrial base. This situation encourages them to go to other countries for employment.

Issuance of Licenses to OEPs during 2016

Graph:



During the year 2016, after interview of applicants, 338 files processed in order to get Overseas Employment Promoter Licenses. In the same period, 235 files submitted to Ministry of Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resource Development (OP&HRD) after approval of the Director General. Currently, 169 files for OEPL are in process for submission to the Ministry of OP &HRD. Finally, 277 licenses were issued till December 2016.

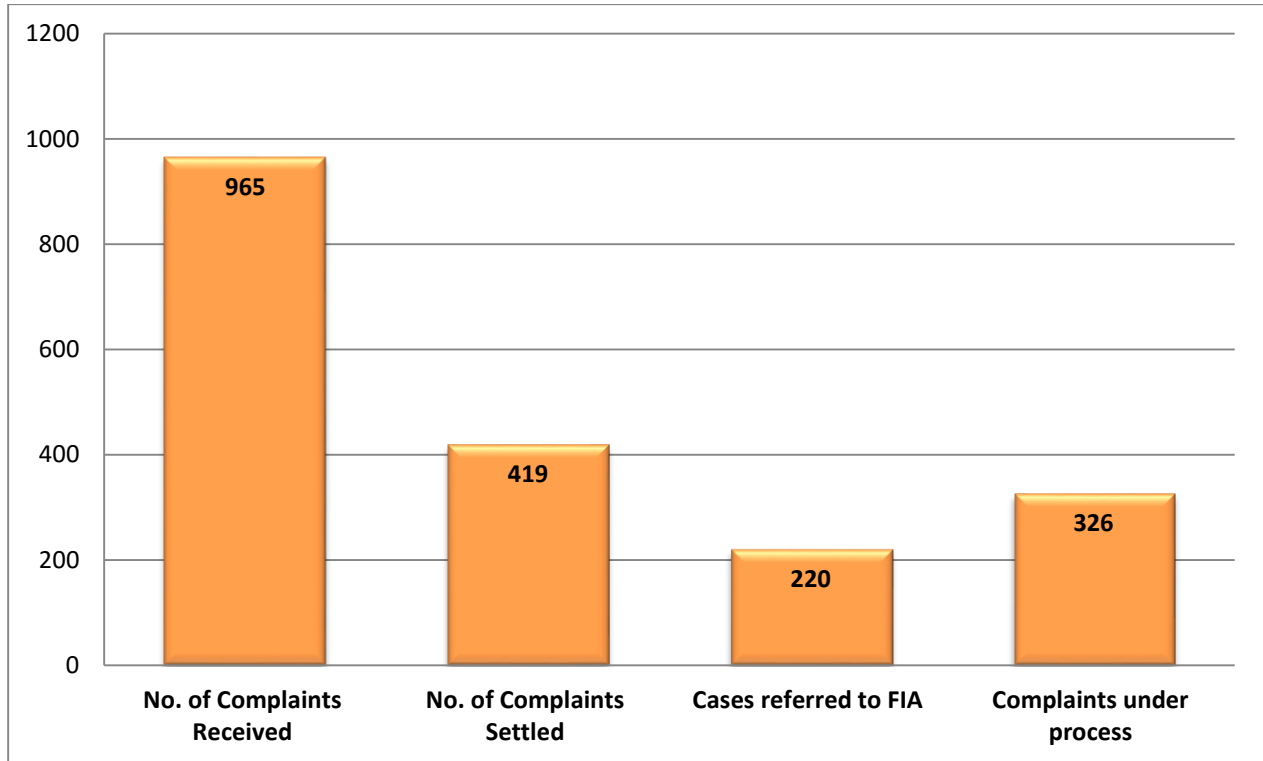
Complaints against OEP's (2010-16)

There is mechanized system operational to address the complaints against OEPs under the directions of Honorable Federal Ombudsman. The Graph 11 highlights the complaints received from 2010 to 2016. During this period, about 965 complaints received against OEP's in which 419 complaints have settled while 220 cases were referred to FIA and 326 complaints are under process.

Overseas Employment Promoter who indulges in malpractices and illegal activities is dealt with the following procedure under Rule 28, 29 & 30 of the Emigration Rules, 1979, as the case may be:

- Their license is suspended or cancelled for a specified period and security is forfeited in whole or part.
- Apart from that, cases registered in special Courts to inquire/investigate the offences in which imprisonment which may extend to 14 years.
- During 2015 and 2016, Penalty of Rs. 10.51 Million imposed on OEPs.

Graph:

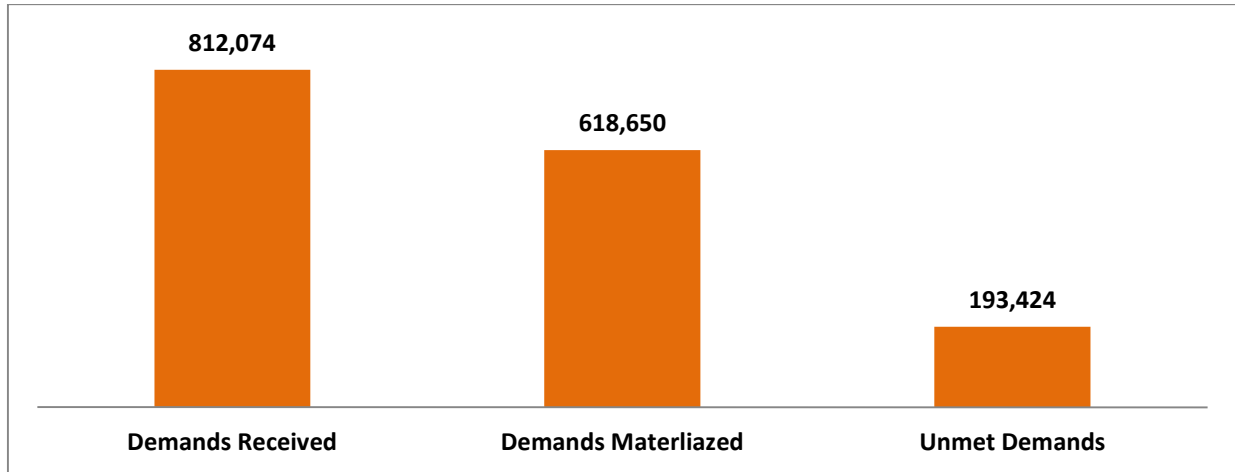


Demands and Permissions during FY 2015-16

During the FY 2015-16, 618,650 Pakistanis proceeded abroad through Overseas Employment Promoters. In the same period, 812,074 demands were received. The net difference/ gap between proceeded emigrants and demands is 193,424.

Directorate of Coordination is responsible for the issuance of Overseas Employment Promoters License (OEPL). It coordinates with the potential applicants and provides all the relevant information regarding OEPL. This directorate reviews the applicant’s documents and arranges the interviews for OEPL with the Director General. It shares the particulars of applicants with the Intelligence Bureau and concerned authorities for their verification. Moreover, it submits complete cases of licenses to the Ministry of OP&HRD.

Graph :



After receiving instructions from Ministry of OP&HRD, this directorate provides information to the applicants regarding the demand notice etc. After approval of licenses, the information is shared with Directorate of Operations, P.E offices and Directorate of I.T for uploading the same on website.