

NEPAL'S LABOUR DIPLOMACY: ASSESSMENT OF ITS EFFECTIVENESS



A Dissertation

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LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION

I certify that this dissertation entitled “Nepal’s Labour Diplomacy: Assessment of its Effectiveness” was prepared by Somesh Thapa under my supervision. I hereby recommend this dissertation for final examination by the Research Committee of the Master’s in International Relations and Diplomacy, Tribhuvan University, in fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of **MASTER’S IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND DIPLOMACY.**

.....
Professor Khadga K.C., PhD
Supervisor

Date: 2019/07/17

LETTE OF DECLARATION

I hereby declare that this dissertation entitled “**Nepal’s Labour Diplomacy: Assessment of its Effectiveness**” presented herein is genuine work, done originally by me and has not been published or submitted elsewhere for the award of any kind and any other degree. Any literature, data, works done by others and cited within this dissertation has been duly acknowledged and listed in the references.

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Name: Somesh Thapa

Date: 2019/07/17

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ABSTRACT

The objective of this study has been to assess the Labour Diplomacy being conducted by Nepal in terms of its effectiveness. Necessity and Sufficiency of Bilateral Labour Agreements with labour destination countries, analyzing the coordination and collaboration between institutions and agencies involved in this process and performance of diplomatic missions with respect to available resources come under the purview of this study.

Cases of migrant labours in relation to State of Qatar and Kuwait have been considered as field of study. Qualitative method of research has been used to collect information regarding the cases related to meet the objective of this study. Interview was conducted based on questionnaire designed to obtain necessary information related to the research. Data related to labour issues of the fiscal year 15/16, 16/17 and 17/18 has been obtained from the two missions and Department of Consular Services.

To analyze the effectiveness of existing Bilateral Labour Agreements/MoUs comparative study has been done with the issues of labours and the subject matter addressed by the BLA. Comprehensive Framework of Labour Agreement designed recently seems more labour friendly and can be legal document to support the day to day work of diplomatic missions. Similarly, in this research work the level of coordination between different stake holders has been studied in relation to time taken to address any issues not addressed by general conditions. Level of coordination during an unprecedented case that comes into play has been analyzed to determine the level of coordination between various stakeholders and decision makers. Finally, Performance of missions has been studied comparing the number of cases addressed by the missions in each year. Performance has been related to capacity and available resources.

It is found that existing BLAs have provided strong legal basis for daily activities to be done by missions in support of labours. Coordination between agencies has been another factor contributing for smooth handling of Labour Diplomacy to large extent. Diplomatic missions would have been utilized more effectively given the resources and attention to improve their competence.

Being country relying largely on remittance received from migrant labours, Labour Diplomacy could have been more effective given that government gives priority to the upgrading the BLAs with labour destination countries along with its effective implementation and developing better mechanisms that can enhance the functioning of diplomatic missions so as to meet the expectation of migrant labours.

Key words: Labour Diplomacy, Assessment, Effectiveness, Labour Migration, Bilateral Agreement

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ACRONYMS

BLA	Bilateral Labour Agreement
MoFA	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
MoLESS	Ministry of Labour, Employment and Social security
MoLJPA	Ministry of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs
FEB	Foreign Employment Board
CESLAM	Centre for the Study of Labour and Mobility
EoN	Embassy of Nepal
CSO	Civil Society Organization
DoFE	Department of Foreign Employment
FEA	Foreign Employment Act
GCC	Gulf Cooperation Council
HTTCA	Human Trafficking and Transportation Control Act
ILO	International Labour Organization
NHRC	National Human Rights Commission
NRB	Nepal Rastra Bank
PNCC	Pravasi Nepali Coordination Committee
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
TIP	Trafficking in Person
UN	United Nations

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