



Concept Note
Punjab State level Launch of the
Pre-Departure Handbook for Indians migrating to the EU

Chandigarh
6 January 2022, 12:00 -13:30

Background

Recognising the growing importance of migration and mobility in EU-India relations, the Government of India and the EU endorsed the India-EU Common Agenda for Migration and Mobility (CAMM) in 2016. While the two sides have agreed to work collaboratively on the issues of migration and mobility, in order to ensure the dialogue is not limited to just high-level events but that collaboration and sharing gain momentum at multiple levels, a technical project was introduced in 2017.

The overall objective of this technical project is to contribute to a better governance of migration and mobility between the EU and India, as well as to prevent and address the challenges related to irregular migratory flows. It focuses on four priority areas of the CAMM: organising regular migration in a more efficient way and fostering well-managed mobility; preventing and combating irregular migration and addressing trafficking in human beings; maximising the development impact of migration and mobility and promoting international protection. The project is implemented by the International Labour Organization (ILO), International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD) and India Centre for Migration (ICM). The CAMM action points include the development of pre-departure programs. To contribute towards this, a pre-departure orientation handbook titled **Pre-departure information for Indians going to the European Union** was planned and developed under this project.

In the lead up to the development of this pre-departure handbook, the ILO in collaboration with ICM held three consultative meetings with the following groups - (i) civil society and academia, (ii) recruitment agents and Government officials and (ii) Government pre-departure trainers. The development of this handbook has gained from the many practical insights shared by the stakeholders during these events; several of which have been incorporated in the handbook.

ILO and ICM are now holding a state level launch of the pre-departure handbook at an event in Hyderabad on 11 January 2022.

The handbook will also be disseminated through events in select states to ensure that it reaches the people who would most benefit from this information – the migrants themselves.

Rationale for launch event

The launch event will provide an opportunity for the State Government to be aware of and jointly present this resource, with the European Union and the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India, to the stakeholders.

The event will include sharing the handbook with the participants and enlisting their support to further disseminate the handbook. Participants will include Protector of Emigrants, passport

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officers, NSDC skill training partners, private companies including representatives of multi-national companies, intermediaries and recruiters, NGOs and other civil society actors, from whom the organisers will seek feedback and ideas for future actions.

Due to the covid-19 situation, the event will be held online. The details for the event meeting are:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://ilo-org.zoom.us/j/98066371147?pwd=bUZwaVdEVkYyV090ZjVZWnJZVy84UT09>

Meeting ID: 980 6637 1147

Passcode: 015642

Objective of the event

To launch the pre-departure handbook at the state level for Indians going to Europe.

To formalise the resource and ensure that the migration governance stakeholders are aware of the handbook.

To take feedback on how the information can be disseminated more widely at the state level.

Expected outcome

Through the consultation, key stakeholders will get to know about this handbook.

The launch will provide an opportunity for stakeholders to gain a better understanding of issues related to migrating to Europe.

Migrants will have access to correct information on migrating to Europe.

Methodology

The meeting will be a hybrid meeting, jointly hosted by ICM (MEA think-tank) and ILO along with the State Government.

The meeting will begin with a welcome address by the State Government followed by opening remarks by MEA, EU and ILO representatives.

A brief presentation of the handbook will then be made and feedback and inputs taken from the participants.

Due to prevailing covid situation, the event will be online for participants. Only government representatives will be physically present in the room with complete social distancing norms.

Participants

- State NRI departments/ labour departments
- State Police
- Skills training partners
- Recruiters and travel operators
- Civil society organizations, trade unions, NGOs, private sector actors

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India-EU Common Agenda on Migration and Mobility



- Media
- EU/ EU MS
- MEA
- ICM
- ILO

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