

Government mulls winding up overseas Job corporation

Since its inception five years ago in 2010, the much-touted Jammu and Kashmir State Overseas Employment Corporation has not been able to facilitate even a single job for the youth of the state.

So, in view of its failure to facilitate the jobs and achieve its objectives, the state government is now considering winding up the corporation.

Jammu and Kashmir State Overseas Employment Corporation Limited was established in 2010 by the Omar Abdullah-led NC-Congress coalition government with the aim and objective of facilitating employment of unemployed youth within and outside the country.

The corporation was incorporated under the Companies Act, 1956, with its registered office in Karan Nagar, Srinagar, and also registered with Protector General of Emigrants, Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs (Government of India), as a recruiting agent under a proper registration number on December 29 in 2011.

With the Chief Minister as its chairman, the corporation, which as per government records is still functional, has nine persons in the board of directors, including Minister for Finance, Labour and Employment, Culture Haseeb Drabu.

In a written reply to a question by MLC Zaffar Iqbal Manhas, who had sought details about the youth provided jobs by the corporation, the government today informed the Legislative Council that a proposal to wind up the corporation was under active consideration owing to the dismal performance of the corporation.

“The J&K Overseas Corporation was established to facilitate employment of the unemployed youth within and outside the country.... However in view of the fact that no youth has been provided job by the corporation since its inception within or outside the country, the proposal regarding winding up the corporation is under active consideration of the government,” Haseeb Drabu stated in a written reply.

The vision behind constituting the corporation was to “to make the state of Jammu and Kashmir a preferred destination for recruitment by overseas employers.

The mission was “to help the potential job emigrants of J&K by facilitating suitable employment opportunities outside the country and enhance their employability by improving their technical and communication skills and to assist them in emigration procedures and processes.”

However, during the past over five years, none of these stated visions and missions seems to have been realised by the corporation.